Many countries ease restrictions in hopes omicron wave has peaked. **NEWS, PAGE 4**

Team names retired

W. Hartford school board decides to retire names for H.S. teams, **CONNECTICUT. PAGE 1**

UConn women win

Huskies beat Creighton, 76-56; Auriemma misses game due to illness. **SPORTS, PAGE1**

Rain on the way



Periods of rain; high of 42. **SPORTS. PAGE 6**



VOLUME CLXXXVI COURANT.COM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2022

Jury opens school finance probe

Federal case also involves New London State Pier project; Lamont releases Twardy report

By Edmund H. Mahony Hartford Courant

Federal authorities have opened an investigation that touches on two major state spending and construction programs, one that finances hundreds of millions of dollars of local school construction and the other a \$200 million plus project to redevelop the State Pier in New London into a wind energy hub.

The U.S. Attorney's office in New Haven served a federal grand jury subpoena to the Lamont administration on Oct. 20, which demands records of both programs as well as state spending on hazardous material abatement projects. The subpoena and accompanying correspondence indicate that the FBI is interested in spending and construction programs that fell under

the control of top former state budget officer Konstantinos Diamantis, Gov. Ned Lamont's former deputy secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

The subpoena reads in part: "Please provide all non-privileged electronic communications (including e-mail and text messages, and all attachments thereto), from January 1, 2018, to the present, involving Konstantinos Diamantis, concerning: (1) the planning, bidding, awarding, and implementation (including the construction process) of school construction proj-

ects; (2) the planning, bidding, awarding and implementation of hazardous materials abatement projects; and (3) the Connecticut State Pier infrastructure improvements project."

Among the terms under which the state was instructed to search by federal prosecutors are the names of Diamantis' daughter, Anastasia; a school construction consultant for whom Anastasia Diamantis formerly worked; and the names of school construction programs financed by

Turn to Diamantis, Page 3



Konstantinos Diamantis was Gov. Lamont's deputy secretary of the Office of Policy and Management.

GROUNDHOG DAY



Manchester Mayor Jay Moran speaks for Connecticut's official state groundhog, Chuckles XI, held by Ashley Little, animal program curator for the Lutz Children's Museum, on Wednesday. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Spring? It's on hold.

Connecticut's Chuckles XI predicts 6 more weeks of winter

Staff report

huckles XI did his job.

Whether anyone likes the result remains to be seen. Especially as more wintry weather is likely to bear down on the state.

But in the inaugural year of Chuckles XI (after last year's ceremony was closed to the public and a hedgehog stood in for the late Chuckles X), Mayor Jay Moran announced that Chuckles predicted six more weeks of winter.

Further, the new Chuckles "is very good with a Sharpie," said Lutz Children's Museum staff member Allison Kaufman, during the first public appearance of the Lutz Children's Museum mascot. The giant "groundhog" waved to passing cars outside the museum early Wednesday morning after a ceremony with Connecticut's official

state groundhog, Chuckles XI.

The state's official groundhog had died in 2020 and then the search got underway to fill the crucial role.

Chuckles X, a female woodchuck that conveyed forecasts to Moran in 2020 and in 2019, was cremated, Lutz Children's Museum interim director Kate Morrissey said at the time.

Chuckles X, who was 5-6 years old when she died, was blind. A chemical — probably some kind of poison put out to kill her — burned her when she was young, and her eyes were surgically removed.

Tradition says that if a groundhog emerges from its hole on Feb. 2 and sees its shadow, six more weeks of winter will follow. No shadow means an early spring.

Thousands of people from around the nation and other

Turn to Chuckles XI, Page 3

Biden adds troops to Eastern Europe

US deployment of 3,000 bolsters NATO forces near Ukrainian border

By Robert Burns, Lolita C. Baldor and Aamer Madhani

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden is ordering 2,000 U.S.-based troops to Poland and Germany and shifting 1,000 more from Germany to Romania, demonstrating to both allies and foes America's commitment to NATO's eastern flank amid fears of a Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Pentagon said Wednesday.

Russia fired back with a sharply worded objection, calling the deployments unfounded and "destructive."

Russian President Vladimir Putin also had a new telephone exchange with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson. But readouts from both governments showed no progress,



Military equipment bound for Ukraine is loaded Sunday at Dover Air Force Base.

SENIOR AIRMAN STEPHANI BARGE/US AIR FORCE

INSIDE: Ordinary Ukrainians say they're set to take up arms against Russia. **News, Page 5**

Lamont plan offers property, car tax cuts

\$336 million budget adjustment offered during 2022 election year

By Christopher Keating Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — In an election year, Gov. Ned Lamont offered a wide-ranging package Wednesday that would cut taxes on real estate and automobiles.

In a move similar to one favored by House Republicans, Lamont called for restoring full eligibility for the property tax credit that has been pared back through the years as the state faced tough fiscal times. Now, with surpluses projected at more than \$1 billion in the current fiscal year and next year, Lamont says the state can afford the overall \$336 million tax-cut package.

Within income limits, the property tax credit would be restored to all residential property owners. Currently, the credit is limited only to those with dependents and those over the age of 65.

Under Lamont's plan, an additional 500,000 people would become eligible for the 2022 calendar year — and they would receive the credit when they file their state income taxes in April 2023.

The plan would save taxpayers a combined \$53 million, and the credit would be limited to single filers earning up to \$109,500 and joint filers earning up to \$130,500.

All the tax proposals would be subject to approval by the Democratic-controlled legislature. After public hearings and committee discussions, lawmakers have a goal of voting on the budget adjustments during the legislative session that ends on May 4.

Unlike some Republicans, Lamont said he has no plans on cutting the state's 6.35% sales tax. Officials noted that Connecticut's

Turn to Taxes, Page 2

"These proposals don't even begin to scratch the surface of lowering the burden of affordability on Connecticut's families and small businesses."

— Republican gubernatorial candidate Bob Stefanowski

Data center could start construction this year

The ambitious plan for a \$1 billion energy complex and data center at the old Stanley Works industrial complex in New Britain appears to be back on track. **Connecticut, Page 1**

News, 10	Opinion
News, 12-14	Obits
News, 2	Lottery
News, 11	Classified
	Puzzles
Connecticut, 8-9	Comics

Hartford Courant

\$3.00 Copyright 2021



Turn to Ukraine, Page 2

Taxes

from Page 1

sales tax rate is lower than New York and New Jersey and ranks 33 out of the 50

"People don't leave Connecticut because of our sales tax rate," Lamont told reporters.

In addition, Lamont wants to increase the property tax credit to a maximum of \$300, up from the current maximum of \$200. Created more than 25 years ago, the credit reached \$500 under then-Republican Gov. M. Jodi Rell. The amount and the eligibility, however, have changed through the years as legislators scrambled to balance the state budget.

If the credit increase is approved, an estimated 1.1 million people would save a combined \$70 million out of the \$336 million package.

Lamont told reporters on a Zoom call Wednesday that he wants the tax cuts to be permanent — even though the legislature can make changes every year.

"I'm trying to provide tax

cuts that are sustainable," Lamont said. "We'll see what we can do in the future."

Lamont is also calling for reimbursing municipalities for cutting the tax on 1.7 million cars and trucks, which officials said translates into 77% of vehicles statewide.

The money, \$160 million, would go to towns with relatively high mill rates under an existing program that would be expanded. The towns impacted would be those with a mill rate of 29 and above — meaning that there would be no relief for low-mill-rate towns like Greenwich, Darien, Westport, and New Canaan. But the plan would help 103 of the 169 towns, including 20 of the most cash-strapped communities.

Lamont's plan also calls for accelerating a plan to phase out the state income tax on pensions and annuities for single filers with adjusted gross income of less than \$75,000 and joint filers earning less than \$100,000 per year. He also wants to expand a tax credit for employers who help pay an



Gov. Ned Lamont is calling for \$336 million in tax relief in an election year. Here, he delivers the State of the State in February 2020 during opening day of the session at the state Capitol in Hartford. JESSICA HILL/AP

employee's student loan that could affect 32,000 people.

But Republicans were skeptical of the various proposals. House Republican leader Vincent Candelora of North Branford has concerns that towns might not receive the promised money in the future from

"They're promised the moon, only to see concepts yanked back entirely or retooled so much that they're barely recognizable," Candelora said. "I hope I'm wrong about that this time around, but the fact that his proposal fails to restore the homeowner's property tax credit to its highest level is a signal that Gov. Lamont continues to have challenges following through on fixing issues that residents care about - in this

Senate Republican Leader

case, affordability.

Kevin Kelly of Stratford contrasted Lamont's plan with one offered by his caucus that calls for cutting the sales tax as soon as Feb. 15 in order to provide immediate relief.

"It must be an election year since Democrats are talking about tax cuts," Kelly said. "Unfortunately, there is no actual relief here until next year! Connecticut absolutely must look to reduce taxes on residents and make our state more affordable for middle-class families."

Kelly added, "Republicans have long called for relief when it comes to property taxes and taxes on pensions in particular. But we also need immediate relief. Inflation right now is crushing family budgets. We must reduce the sales tax now. Promises for future tax credits are welcome, so long as they can be delivered. But we cannot ignore that what families are calling for is real relief now."

Republican gubernatorial candidate Bob Stefanowski blasted Lamont's plans.

"These proposals don't even begin to scratch the surface of lowering the burden of affordability on Connecticut's families and small businesses," Stefanowski said. "Ned Lamont ran a campaign promising to cut the property tax burden on Connecticut's working families by \$400 million. He has never even tried to make good on that promise."

He, too, said inflation is key for families and small businesses.

"We can do something right now to help people where they're hurting most: cut the sales tax, eliminate Ned Lamont's tax on food and restaurants, and make gas more affordable."

In a \$1 million advertising campaign that will last about one month, Stefanowski has been broadcasting television commercials in which he says he will cut the sales tax if he is elected as governor.

The governor and the entire, 187-member legislature are up for reelection in November.

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@ courant.com

Ukraine

from Page 1

with Putin saying the West was giving no ground on Russia's security concerns and Johnson expressing deep concern about Russia's "hostile activity" on the Ukrainian border, referring to Putin's buildup of 100,000 troops there.

The Biden administration is aiming to demonstrate U.S. resolve without undermining efforts to find a diplomatic solution to the crisis. Biden notably has not sent military reinforcements to the three Baltic countries on NATO's eastern flank — Estonia. Latvia and Lithuania — that are former states of the Soviet

No U.S. troops are being sent to Ukraine, and White House press secretary Jen Psaki on Wednesday said the

administration has stopped calling a Russian invasion "imminent," because that word implies Washington knows Putin has made a decision to invade. Officials say Putin's intentions remain unclear.

However, increasing U.S. troop levels in Eastern Europe is exactly what Putin has said he finds intolerable, along with the prospect of Ukraine joining NATO. The U.S. already has several thousand troops in Poland, and Romania is host to a NATO missile defense system that Russia considers a threat. The U.S. presence in the region has increased since 2014 when Russia made its first invasion of Ukraine.

Pentagon press secretary John Kirby said the soonto-deploy U.S. forces are intended to temporarily bolster U.S. and allied defensive positions.

"These are not permanent moves," he said, stressing that the purpose is to reassure allies. Kirby said Russia had continued its buildup. even in the previous 24 hours, despite U.S. urgings that it de-escalate.

In Moscow, a senior official said the U.S. movements will complicate the crisis.

"The unfounded destructive steps will only fuel military tensions and narrow the field for political decisions," Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Grushko said in remarks carried by the Interfax news agency.

Ukraine's Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba again played down fears of a Russian attack in a call with reporters but said that if Russia makes moves that could signal an imminent invasion Ukraine would react as necessary.

Of the 2,000 U.S. troops newly deploying from Fort Bragg, North Carolina. about 1,700 are members of the 82nd Airborne Division infantry brigade, who will go to Poland. The other 300 are with the 18th Airborne Corps and will go to Germany for what the Pentagon called a "joint task force-capable headquarters.'

Poland's Defense Minister Mariusz Blaszczak wrote on Twitter that the deployment to his country is "a strong signal of solidarity in response to the situation in Ukraine."

The 1,000 U.S. troops going to Romania are members of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment based at Vilseck, Germany. They will augment about 900 already in Romania, Kirby said.

The cavalry deployment's purpose is to "deter aggression and enhance our defensive capabilities in frontline allied states during this period of elevated risk," the Pentagon said in a separate written statement.

"It's important that we send a strong signal to Mr. Putin and to the world" of the U.S commitment to NATO, Kirby said.

He said France has decided it, too, will send troop reinforcements to Romania under NATO command, and he noted that a number of other European NATO countries are considering adding forces on NATO's eastern flank.

NATO has been beefing up its defenses around allies in Eastern Europe since late last year. Denmark, for example, said it was sending a frigate and F-16 warplanes to Lithuania, and Spain was sending four fighter jets to Bulgaria and three ships to the Black Sea to join NATO naval forces.

Biden has said he will not put American troops in Ukraine to fight any Russian incursion, although the United States is supplying Ukraine with weapons to defend itself and seeking to reassure allies in Eastern Europe that Washington will fulfill its treaty obligation to defend them in the event they are attacked.

Ukraine is not a NATO member, and therefore the U.S. has no treaty obligation to come to its defense.

The Pentagon also has put about 8,500 U.S.-based troops on higher alert for possible deployment to Europe as additional reassurance to allies, and officials have indicated the possibility that additional units could be placed on higher alert soon. The U.S. already has between 75,000 and 80,000 troops in Europe as permanently stationed forces and as part of regular rotations in places such as Poland.

Hartford Courant

A TRIBUNE PUBLISHING COMPANY

NEWS EXECUTIVES

Executive Editor

Megan R. Merrigan Director, Audience

BUSINESS EXECUTIVES Mary Lou Stoneburner

Vice President, Advertising Dana S. Bisconti

> Director, Finance Brian W. McEnery Director, Distribution

HOW TO REACH US

The Hartford Courant and www.courant.com P.O. Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141-0569 860-241-6200 (Local calling area)

800-524-4242 (Outside the Hartford area) Our Circulation Customer Service is open Monday through Friday

860-525-555

Subscriptions, missed delivery or missing sections, vacation stops, billing questions. For same-day redelivery, please call before 10 $\,$ a.m. daily, 11:30 a.m. Sunday. All numbers are 860 area code unless

ADVERTISING 241-6221 Classified 525-2525 800-842-8824 classified@courant.com Death notices/Obituaries 241-6392 **SPORTS** 241-6435 EDITORIAL PAGE/LETTERS 241-6595

NEWS ACCURACY AND FAIRNESS CONCERNS E-mail 241-3902

The Hartford Courant proudly participates in a comprehensive recycling program to help protect the earth's environment. You can join us by recycling this newspaper Published daily and Sunday by The Hartford Courant Company (ISSN 1047-4153). Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT. Postmaster send address changes to: The Hartford Courant, P.O. Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141-0569. Home delivery rates: Daily and Sunday (7 days), \$17.99; *Thursday through Sunday (4 days) \$13.99; *Thursday, Friday and Sunday (3 days) \$12.50: Thursday and Sunday (2 days) \$10.50: Sunday-only service \$8.99 includes the Thanksgiving paper; Sunday through Friday (6 days) \$12.25; Monday through Friday (5 days) \$12.50; Monday through Saturday (6 days) \$11.58.All subscriptions may include up to 12 premium issues per year. For each premium issue, your account balance will be charged an additional fee up to \$5.99 in the billing period when the section publishes. This will result in shortening the length of your billing period. Premium issues scheduled to date: 1/10/21, 2/14/21, 3/28/21, 4/18/21, 5/16/21, 6/13/21, 7/11/21, 8/8/21, 9/5/21, 10/10/21, 11/21/21, 12/19/21. Dates are subject to change without notice. *Service not available in all areas. Rates may vary based on subscription length. Vacation stops do not extend expiration dates. We may increase home delivery rates with 15 days notice. The Hartford Courant reserves the right to revise or reject any advertisement. Only publication of the advertisement shall constitute acceptance of the advertisement. The Hartford Courant shall not be responsible for the omission, in whole or in part, of any advertisement or for any typographical or other error. The Hartford Courant's liability shall be limited to the amount paid by the advertiser for the first insertion only. In no event shall The Hartford Courant be liable for



LOTTERY

Wednesday, Feb. 2

PLAY3 DAY

8 8 2 8 ws: 9 4 7 3 ws: 8

PLAY4 DAY

The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/ lottery.

TUESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS **PLAY3 NIGHT 2 1 3 WB: 5** PLAY4 NIGHT 3 8 6 9 WB: 9 cash 5 3 8 16 19 28 LUCKY FOR LIFE 4 10 20 25 36 LB: 17 **LOTTO 4** 10 26 28 30 43 Zero first-prize winning ticket(s)

> sold. MEGA MILLIONS 11 24 38 62 66 MB: 1 MP: 4 Fri.'s est. Lotto iackpot: \$1.2 million

Fri.'s est. Mega Millions jackpot: \$22 million



2/4 Riders on the Storm

A Tribute to The Doors, recreating a seance-like experience and mood for thousands of fans dozens of countries.

2/5 Bee Gees Gold

With the detailed vocal stylings of John Acosta (Barry), Daryll Borges (Robin), Jeff Celentano (Maurice) as the brothers Gibb, there is a sensation that will make you blurt out, Wow.. I just seen and heard the Bee Gees!

2/6 The Bolshoi Ballet in HD Encore: **Jewels 2/7** Missoula Children's Theatre: Red Riding Hood Auditions

Take the stage at the Kate! All students, entering 1st grade through 12th grade are encouraged to audition. A free program of the Kate. Performances 2/12. Visit TheKate.org for more information.

2/9 Della Mae

Nashville-based string band with a reputation as a charismatic live act with some of the finest players in bluegrass, Americana and beyond.

2/10 Duke Robillard

Duke has carved out one of blues' most illustrious legacies, while also trodding some lofty related territories as a guitarist and songwriter.

2/11 Swearingen & Kelli: The Music of Simon & Garfunkel

For over 20 years, recreate the music, memories and magic of the most famous folk-rock duo of our time, Simon & Garfunkel.

2/12 Dana Fuchs

Rock 'n' roll and blues singer-songwriter (with mix of Southern rock, soul, roots), known for her powerful vocals and personal lyrics.

2/18 Comedy Hypnotist Jim Spinnato

Watch as audience volunteers release their comedic abilities all while under the influence of hypnosis. "Sleeping" was never this funny!!











4All Promos

ForAllGifts

ential damages of any kind



You may be eligible to participate in a research study investigating the effects of depression on aging

Participation involves:

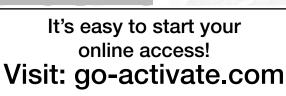
- 5-6 visits at UConn Health
- Study visits are every 6 months for 2 years
- Interviews and evaluations with a geriatric psychiatrist
- Testing of thinking & memory
- One-time MRI brain scan
- Compensation up to \$380
- There is no cost for participation

To learn more call 860-679-4309 or email sendep@uchc.edu

UCONN **HEALTH**

Breno Diniz, MD, Center on Aging, UConn Health, heads the study. The SenDep Study: Linking Molecular Senescence Changes to Depression and Cognitive Impairment in Late Life IRB # 21-257-2

Get more out of your subscription by setting up your digital account



Hartford Courant



FROM PAGE ONE

Chuckles XI

from Page 1

countries gathered at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, as members of Punxsutawney Phil's "inner circle" summoned him from his tree stump at dawn to learn if he had seen his shadow, a message they said Phil communicated in "groundhogese." After Phil's prediction was announced, the crowd repeatedly chanted "six more weeks!

The annual event has its origin in a German legend about a furry rodent.

According to records dating back to 1887, Phil has predicted winter more than 100 times. Ten years were lost because no records were kept, organizers said.

The 2020 forecast called for an early spring.

Punxsutawney Phil may be the most famous groundhog seer but he's certainly not the only one, and one competitor disagreed with his prediction. New York City's Staten Island Chuck expects an early spring, according to Staten Island **District Attorney Michael** McMahon, who presided over a ceremony that was livestreamed from Chuck's home at the Staten Island

Associated Press contributed to this story.



The Lutz Children's Museum mascot groundhog waved to passing cars outside the museum Wednesday morning. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Diamantis

from Page 1

the state under the elder Diamantis' tenure.

State officials disclosed the issuance of the subpoena and accompanying correspondence Wednesday in response to a public records request by the Courant.

In a related development. Gov. Ned Lamont's office on Wednesday afternoon released the results of an inquiry into, among other things, the circumstances under which Anastasia Diamantis was given a political appointment in 2020 as an executive assistant in the state Division of Criminal Justice.

Lamont hired former U.S. Attorney Stanley A. Twardy Jr. on Dec. 15 to look into Chief State's Attorney Richard Colangelo's decision to give a patronage job to Diamantis' daughter — at the same time Colangelo was pressing Diamantis to raise the salaries of senior prosecutors. Twardy was contracted for the inquiry two weeks after the Lamont administration fired Diamantis for unspecified "alleged misconduct."

It appears, from the date of issuance of the subpoena and other events, that the decision to fire Konstantino Diamantis and hire Twardy to look into his daughter's hiring were made after the administration learned of the federal investigation.

Twardy's contract called for him to "conduct a confidential factual investigation on behalf of the Office of the Governor regarding possible improprieties by state employees and possibly others, and, as requested, to provide legal analysis and recommendations for possible further actions."

Colangelo and Diamantis had been connected by state email records discussing, among other things, Colangelo's decision to hire Diamantis' 32-year old daughter, Anastasia, as an executive assistant in July 2020. Executive assistant positions fall outside civil service rules and the appointments are usually political in nature.

In his lengthy report, which Lamont disclosed Wednesday, Twardy said it was his intention to make public only his factual

findings about the circumstances under which Colangelo hired Diamantis' daughter. Twardy wrote in the conclusion that "Our legal analysis and recommendations have been provided separately to the Office of the Governor."

Twardy said he expects the Governor's office to make the report available to both the Office of State Ethics, for consideration of possible violations, as well as to the state Criminal Justice Commission, "which ultimately has the authority to take any appropriate action in regards to Mr. Colangelo's appointment as Chief State's Attor-

Lamont on Wednesday instructed the ethics office to "develop and deliver in the next 90 days ethics training, with a focus on conflicts of interest and improper use of office, to all political appointees in the Executive Branch, including but not limited to all Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners." The governor told the criminal justice commission to advise him whether "policy changes or other remedial actions" are required at the Chief State's Attorney's office.

"I wanted this independent investigation conducted because the people of Connecticut deserve transparency and accountability from their government," Lamont said Wednesday afternoon. "I am very disturbed by the findings in Mr. Twardy's report."

The governor's press staff released nothing about Lamont's reaction to Twardy's private briefing.

Paul Mounds Jr. Lamont's chief of staff, said of the federal grand jury investigation, "The Lamont administration has and will continue to fully cooperate with federal authorities concerning their investigation. The administration has and will continue to comply fully with the ethics laws of the state because the people of Connecticut deserve transparency and accountability."

Supreme Court Justice Andrew McDonald, chairman of the Criminal Justice Commission that oversees Colangelo and the hundreds of prosecu"I wanted this independent investigation conducted because the people of Connecticut deserve transparency and accountability from their government. I am very disturbed by the findings in Mr. Twardy's report."

— Gov. Ned Lamont

tors in the state Division of Criminal Justice, said he is still reviewing the lengthy Twardy report issued

Wednesday by Lamont.
"I have not had a chance to review this lengthy report and supporting documentation in detail, which together span more than 500 pages," McDonald said.

"Nor have I had the opportunity to share it with the members of the Criminal Justice Commission yet. Once we have reviewed it, we intend to work with the Attorney General's office to determine whether any rules, policies or statutes have been violated and what next steps, if any, the commission will take." McDonald said. "We will, of course, also be responding to the governor's request for any proposed policy changes the commission would like the Division of **Criminal Justice Advisory** Board, which is the statutorily empowered policy arm of the Division that is separate from the commission, to consider. Additionally. pursuant to the governor's request, we will also be proposing potential statutory changes for consider-

ation by the legislature." The email records show that as Colangelo monitored Anastasia Diamantis' trip through the state employment process he was pressing an aggressive lobbying campaign at the state's budget offices. The goal, he said, was to correct decades-old budgeting errors that continue to result in unfair salary scales

among prosecutors. Konstantinos Diamantis was among those Colangelo asked for help in resolving the budget problem - while his daughter's employment application was pending

Although Anastasia Diamantis was hired. Colangelo failed in achieving his goal of correcting the salary inequities in his division. The email records show that the months Colangelo spent pleading with Diamantis and others to resolve his budget problem, the upside-down pay scale remains in effect, and Colangelo is still trying to

Colangelo insisted in the interview last month that Anastasia Diamantis' job wasn't political. He said he met her at a social event and was impressed with her credentials. She continues to work for Colangelo in the state Division of Criminal justice.

Twardy wrote in his report that he had questions about the answers given by Diamantis, his daughter and Colangelo — all of whom were interviewed

about her hiring. "Based on the available evidence, we do not find credible the largely consistent accounts of Mr. Colangelo, Anastasia, and Mr. Diamantis concerning how Mr. Colangelo and Anastasia first met. Our conclusion that those individuals lack credibility concerning the straightforward question of how Mr. Colangelo and Anastasia first met casts doubt on the integrity of the circumstances surrounding Anastasia's hiring with the

Division," he wrote. A spokeswoman for Colangelo said he "has not had the opportunity to review the full report and is reserving comment until his review is complete."

Diamantis' lawyer, Norm Pattis, said he is aware of the subpoena and has told federal prosecutors he is willing to answer their questions.

After Twardy's appointment, a variety of officials said they expected that his inquiry could extend beyond the appointment of Anastasia Diamantis to the portion of her father's former job responsibilities that involved the distribution of hundreds of millions of dollars in state construction financing to municipalities building or remodeling schools.

Anastasia Diamantis worked part time for a company that advises municipalities on school construction before and during the time she worked for the Division of Criminal Justice.

At the time of her application, Anastasia Diamantis had been working for about five years at another state agency, the Department of Rehabilitation Services. Colangelo said she disclosed during a background check that she also had a part-time job with a construction management company called Construction Advocacy Partners in Moosup. Some of that company's work involves representing cities and towns that build schools with grant money distributed by the state Office of School Construction Grants and Review, which her father directed.

In correspondence associated with the subpoena, federal prosecutors indicate their interest in records concerning Diamantis, his daughter, Construction Advocacy partners and its owner Antonietta DiBenedetto-Roy. The prosecutors provide the state with terms for searching electronic records and those terms point to an investigative interest in particular town school projects, certain construction companies and the use of temporary, portable classrooms while schools are being built. A message seeking comment was left with DiBenedetto-Roy.

The state was also instructed to search construction records for electronic correspondence concerned with a wedding, an engagement party and an emergency fund.

The state's school construction financing assistance program runs into the hundreds of millions, if not billions of dollars, and is financed through the sale of state bonds.

Diamantis, a lawyer and former state representative from Bristol, worked for both the state Department of Administrative Services and the Office of Policy and Management, while managing the state program that finances municipal school construction programs. He was also involved in the State Pier project in New London.

The New London project, overseen by Diamantis, involves rebuilding the massive pier and using it as a staging area for offshore wind energy development. But the project has been beset by a succession of petty scandals and delays while its cost has jumped from \$93 million to \$157 million to \$235 million.

Diamantis went to work for the state Department of Administrative services in 2015, the same year his daughter was hired by Department of Rehabilitation Services.

Four years later, Lamont's secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, Melissa McCaw, hired Diamantis as her deputy, and he brought the state school construction financing program with him.

The Lamont administration put Diamantis on leave, effectively sacking him, on Oct. 28. In a letter notifying Diamantis, the state personnel office implied that his boss, McCaw, had not been informed in advance.

"This letter is to confirm that effective immediately, you are being placed on an Administrative Leave of Absence (with pay), from your position of Construction Services Director of Project Management, pending the results of an investigation into your alleged misconduct," the letter said. "Secretary McCaw was informed today of the pending review into your alleged misconduct."

A statement issued by Lamont's office the same day did little to clarify the

"The Governor's Office removed Mr. Diamantis because of a personnel matter that is still under review," a spokesman said.

Last month, asked about the matter again, the spokesman referred to Twardy's inquiry into a "personnel matter" and said, "Independent counsel was retained in order to ensure a complete and thorough review, free of any potential claim of partiality. This independent inquiry is ongoing. The Office of the Governor will not have further comment as this is an ongoing review."



Get more out of your subscription by setting up your digital account

- More articles than what's in print
- Breaking News alerts with the mobile app
- Unlimited access to our website
- eNewspaper, a digital replica of the paper emailed daily

It's easy to start your online access! Visit: go-activate.com

TRIBUNE

More nations ease virus restrictions

Decisions made with hopes that omicron wave is past its peak

By Jamey Keaten Associated Press

Late-night partying at clubs. Elbow-to-elbow seating in theaters. Going without masks in public, especially in Europe and North America: Step by step, many countries are easing COVID-19 restrictions amid hopes the omicron wave may have passed its peak.

The early moves to relax precautions, based on declining or flattening case counts in recent days, represent what could be another turning point in a nearly two-year pandemic that has been full of them.

The extraordinarily contagious omicron has fueled more cases worldwide over the past 10 weeks − 90 million − than were seen during all of 2020, the outbreak's first full year.

But the World Health Organization this week said $some \, countries \, can \, consider$ carefully relaxing the rules if they have high immunity rates, their health care systems are strong and the epidemiological trends are going in the right direction.

New cases worldwide for the week of Jan. 24-30 were similar to the previous week, though the number of new deaths increased 9% to more than 59,000, reflecting the usual lag between infection and death, according to the U.N. health agency.

The most pronounced pullbacks in restrictions are in Europe, for many months the world's epicenter of the pandemic, as well as in South Africa — where omicron was first announced publicly -



People not wearing face masks enjoy the sunny weather on Wednesday in Saint-Jean-de-Luz, France. BOB EDME/AP

and the United States.

In the U.S., the city of Denver is ending requirements for proof of vaccination and mask rules for businesses and public spaces, while keeping them for schools and public transportation.

New York's governor plans in the next week to review whether to keep the state's mask mandate at a time when cases and hospitalizations have plummeted in the early omicron hotspot. New York City is averaging 4,200 cases a day, compared with 41,000 during the first week of January.

The U.S. as a whole is on a similar trajectory, with infections plunging from an average of over 800,000 a day 2 ½ weeks ago to 430,000 this week.

England, France, Ireland, the Netherlands and several Nordic countries have taken steps to end or loosen their restrictions. In some places, like Norway and Denmark, the easing comes even though case counts are still hovering near their highs.

Some governments are essentially betting that the pandemic is ebbing.

"Rest assured that the worst days are behind us," said Health Minister Fahrettin Koca of Turkey, where the number of daily infections topped 100,000 on Tuesday, the highest on record in the country of over 80 million.

Also on Tuesday, Norway lifted its ban on serving alcohol after 11 p.m. and the cap on private gatherings of no more than 10 people. People can sit closely again at events with fixed seating, and sports events can take place as they did before the pandemic.

"Now it's time for us to take back our everyday life," said Norwegian Health Minister Ingvild Kjerkol.

In Denmark, which on Tuesday took the lead among European Union members by scrapping most restrictions, many people were still masked a day later.

"I still wear a mask because I want to protect myself and others whose health is not so good, or who have health issues," said retiree Kjeld Rasmussen, 86, in Copenhagen. "I have several things (health conditions) and so for me, it is also

Over 370 million cases and over 5.6 million deaths linked to COVID-19 have been reported worldwide.

a good way to say to others,

Keep your distance."

The loosening of omicron's grip in many places has given rise to hope that the outbreak is about to enter a new phase in which the virus will become a persistent but generally manageable threat.

Switzerland on Wednesday scrapped work-at-home

and quarantine requirements and announced plans for an easing of other restrictions in coming weeks, saying: "Despite record high infection figures, hospitals have not been overburdened and the occupancy of intensive care units has fallen further."

"There are increasing signs that the acute crisis will soon be over and the endemic phase could begin," the government said.

While omicron has proved less likely to cause severe illness than the delta variant, experts are warning people against underestimating it or letting their guard down against the possibility of new, more dangerous mutant varieties.

WHO's emergencies chief, Dr. Michael Ryan, warned that political pressure could lead some countries to open back up too soon — and "that will result in unnecessary transmission, unnecessary severe disease and unnecessary death."

Other continents are being more cautious. Some of the world's highest vaccination rates are Asia, and its leaders are holding to stricter lockdown measures or even tightening them for

The remote Pacific island country of Tonga headed into lockdown Wednesday after discovering infections in two port workers helping to distribute aid in the wake of a recent volcanic eruption and tsunami. The country up to now has been virus-free.

Days before the start of the Winter Olympics, China is sticking to its zero-COVID policy. It imposes strict lockdowns and quarantines when any cases are detected.

Biden revives 'moonshot' program to fight cancer

Plan aims to halve the death rate over the next 25 years

By Sheryl Gay Stolberg

and Gina Kolata The New York Times

WASHINGTON - President Joe Biden unveiled a plan Wednesday to reduce the death rate from cancer by at least 50% over the next 25 years — an ambitious new goal, he said, to "supercharge" the cancer "moonshot" program he initiated and presided over five years ago as vice president.

Biden, joined by first lady Jill Biden, and Vice President Kamala Harris, also announced a campaign to urge Americans to undergo screenings that were missed amid the coronavirus pandemic. And he said he would create a new "cancer Cabinet" inside the White

"Let there be no doubt," the president declared during a White House ceremony attended by roughly 100 people, including patients, doctors, caregivers, researchers and members of Congress. "Now that I am president, this is a presidential White House priority period."

But some cancer experts

expressed doubt that it would be possible to so profoundly reduce the age-adjusted death rate, which accounts for expectations that older people are more likely to grow ill and

die. More screenings are not the answer — the only cancers for which screening has indisputably lowered the death rate are colon and cervical. Death rates for other cancers, like breast. have fallen, but a large part of the drop, if not all of it, is because of improved treatment, said Donald Berry, a biostatistician at the University of Texas MD Anderson

Cancer Center. If the age-adjusted cancer death rate were to plunge by 50%, it would have to be because cancers were being cured. Some treatments, like a drug that treats chronic myelogenous leukemia, have slashed death rates for that disease, but such marked effects in cancer are few and

far between. The president has a deep personal interest in cancer research; in 2015, his son Beau died of glioblastoma, an aggressive brain cancer. The next year, President Barack Obama called on Biden in his State of the Union address to lead the moonshot program, with a goal of making "a decade's worth of advances in cancer prevention, diagnosis and

treatment" in five years. At the time, Congress authorized \$1.8 billion over seven years; roughly \$400 million of that money has vet to be allocated. The National Cancer Institute, which oversees the initiative, says it has already spent \$1 billion on more than 240 research projects.

Senior administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday evening that the White House would not be announcing any new funding commitments, but insisted that there would be "robust funding going forward."

The White House billed the event as a fresh push by the president to "reignite" the moonshot program and end cancer as we know it." Specifically, Biden set a goal of cutting the age-adjusted death rate by more than half over the next 25 years. But there were few specifics about how that goal would be achieved.

Biden has already named Danielle Carnival, who worked on the moonshot program during the Obama administration, to help oversee the new version of the effort. Now, the president



President Biden initiated and oversaw the original "moonshot" program to fight cancer five years ago when he was vice president under Barack Obama. ALEX BRANDON/AP

said, the "cancer Cabinet" will coordinate the work of multiple government agen-

The White House says more than 9.5 million cancer screenings were missed in the United States as a result of the pandemic. Biden is calling on the cancer institute, a branch of the National Institutes of Health, to coordinate with cancer treatment centers to offer screenings around the country, and to develop a program to fast-track the development of tests that can detect multiple types of cancer at once.

The new blood tests that are said to detect all cancers are still unproven and there are currently no plans to do the sort of very large studies that could determine if they actually prevent deaths and are not harming people with unnecessary treatment. But companies interested in them were thrilled with Biden's announcement.

"Making early cancer detection more affordable and accessible, especially for traditionally underserved groups, is the next leap forward in reducing

cancer death rates," Francis deSouza, the chief executive of Illumina, a medical device company, said in a statement.

Yet one Wall Street analyst who specializes in biotechnology and pharmaceuticals said that the time, money and effort might be better spent on initiatives to prevent cancer, like reducing smoking and rates of obesity.

"This moonshot is 100% hype; this is the absolute wrong way to do this," said Stephen Brozak, the president of WBB Securities.

Actor Michael K. Williams died Sept. 6 from a drug overdose at age 54. ARTURO HOLMES/GETTY 2021

4 charged in Sept. overdose death of 'Wire' actor Williams

By Larry Neumeister Associated Press

NEW YORK — Four men believed to be members of a drug distribution crew have been charged in the overdose death of actor Michael K. Williams five months ago, authorities said Wednesday.

All four were arrested Tuesday and were in custody based on criminal complaints in Manhattan federal court, including one defendant who was arrested in Puerto Rico, according to a news release from U.S. Attorney Damian Williams and New York City Police Commissioner Keechant

scheduled to make initial appearances in Manhattan federal court to face narcotics conspiracy charges alleging the distribution of fentanyl-laced heroin that resulted in the death of Williams, who gained fame playing Omar Little on "The

Sewell. Three defendants were

New York City's medical

examiner earlier ruled that Williams, 54, died of acute drug intoxication Sept. 6. He was found dead by family members in his apartment. At that time, the medical examiner's office ruled Williams' death an accident.

The U.S. attorney said the crimes and charges resulted from a "public health crisis."

"Deadly opioids like fentanyl and heroin don't care about who you are or what you've accomplished. They just feed addiction and lead to tragedy," the prose-

cutor said.

According to court papers, Williams' death resulted from drugs sold by a drug trafficking organization that has operated since at least August 2020 in Brooklyn's Williamsburg neighborhood.

Authorities said members of the organization sold the actor heroin laced with

fentanyl on Sept. 5. The court papers contained photographs, including one in which defendant Irvin Cartagena

can be seen executing the transaction, authorities said. They added that the screenshots were taken from surveillance video.

It was not immediately clear who would represent Cartagena, 39, of Brooklyn, in court.

Authorities said that the men continued to sell fentanyl-laced heroin amid apartment buildings in Brooklyn and Manhattan even after knowing that Williams had died from one of their products.

Ukraine building its own resistance

Ordinary people say they're set to take up arms against Russia

By Mstyslav Chernov and Lori Hinnant Associated Press

KHARKIV, Ukraine — The table tennis coach, the chaplain's wife and the dentist have little in common except a desire to defend their hometown and a sometimes halting effort to speak Ukrainian instead of Russian.

The situation in Kharkiv, 25 miles from some of the tens of thousands of Russian troops massed at the border of Ukraine, feels particularly perilous. Ukraine's second-largest city is one of its industrial centers and includes two factories that restore old Soviet-era tanks or build new ones.

It's also a city of fractures: between Ukrainian speakers and those who stick with the Russian that dominated until recently; between those who enthusiastically volunteer to resist a Russian offensive and those who just want to live their lives. Which side wins out in Kharkiv could well determine the fate of Ukraine.

If Russia invades, some of Kharkiv's 1 million plus people say they're ready to wage a guerrilla campaign against one of the world's greatest military powers.

greatest military powers.

"This city has to be protected," said Viktoria Balesina, who teaches table tennis to teenagers and dyes her cropped hair purple at the crown. "We need to do something, not to panic and fall on our knees. We do not want this."

Balesina recalls being pressured to attend pro-Russia rallies during the protest movement that swept Ukraine after Russia attacked in 2014 — a year that utterly changed her life. A lifelong Russian speaker born and raised in Kharkiy, she switched to Ukrainian.



Members of Ukraine's Territorial Defense Forces, volunteer military units of the Armed Forces, prepare for training in Kharkiv, Ukraine. **EVGENIY MALOLETKA/AP**

Then she joined a group of a dozen or so women who meet weekly in an office building for community defense instruction.

Now her Ukrainian is near-fluent, though she still grasps at some words, and she can reload a submachine gun almost comfortably.

This wasn't what she expected at 55, but she's accepted it.

Many in her social circle sympathize with Russia, but they're not what drives her today.

"I am going to protect the city not for those people but for the women I'm training with," she said.

Among her group is Syet-

Among her group is Svetlana Putilina, whose husband is a Muslim chaplain in the Ukrainian military. With grim determination and not a hint of panic, the 50-year-old has orchestrated emergency plans for her family and for her unit

"If it is possible and our government gives out weapons, we will take them and defend our city," said the mother of three and grandmother of three. If not, she at least has one of her husband's service weapons at home, and she now knows how to use it.

Elsewhere in Kharkiv, Dr. Oleksandr Dikalo dragged two creaky exam chairs into a labyrinthine basement and refilled jerrycans with fresh water. The public dental clinic he runs is on the ground floor of a 16-story apartment building, and the warren of underground rooms is listed as an emergency shelter for the hundreds of residents.

Dikalo knows how to handle weapons as well, from his days as a soldier in the Soviet Army in East Germany. His wife works as a doctor at Kharkiv's emergency hospital and regularly tends to Ukrainian soldiers wounded at the front.

The conflict that began in Ukraine's Donbas region subsided into low-level trench warfare after agreements brokered by France and Germany. Most of the estimated 14,000 dead were killed in 2014 and 2015, but every month brings new casualties.

"If God forbid something happens, we must stand and protect our city. We must stand hand to hand against the aggressor," Dikalo said. At 60 he's too old to join the civil defense units forming across the country, but he's ready to act to keep Kharkiv from falling.

A guerrilla war fought by dentists, coaches and housewives defending a hometown of a thousand basement shelters would be a nightmare for Russian military planners, according to analysts and U.S. intelligence officials.

gence officials.

"The Russians want to destroy Ukraine's combat forces. They don't want to be in a position where they have to occupy ground, where they have to deal with civilians, where they have to deal with an insurgency," said James Sherr, an analyst of Russian military strategy who testified recently before a British parliamen-

tary committee.

There are growing calls in Washington for the CIA and the Pentagon to support a potential Ukrainian insurgency. While Russia's forces are larger and more powerful than Ukraine's, an insurgency supported by U.S.-funded arms and training could deter a full-scale

Polling of ordinary Ukrai-

nians reviewed by intelligence agencies has strongly indicated there would be an active resistance in the event of an invasion, according to two people familiar with the matter who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive information. A spokesperson for the intelligence community declined

to comment.

Ukrainian President
Volodymyr Zelenskyy said
recently that any escalation could hinge on Kharkiv.
The city is also the base for
Yevheniy Murayev, identified by British intelligence
as the person Russia was
considering installing as
president.

"Kharkiv has over 1 million citizens," Zelenskyy told The Washington Post. "It's not going to be just an occupation; it's going to be the beginning of a large-scale war"



Find the right senior living option for your mom or dad with our free personalized process

- Connect with a local advisor
- 2 Review a tailored list of recommendations
- 3 Evaluate, tour and decide with confidence

A Place for Mom helps thousands of families like Rose's each year and simplifies the process of finding senior living with customized guidance at no cost to your family.

Our service is free, as we're paid by our participating communities and providers.



Connect with us at 866.403.6931

ASSISTED LIVING MEMORY CARE INDEPENDENT LIVING HOME CARE

Join us for a free virtual class

Understanding Lung Cancer

Join our interactive class right from the comfort of your phone, computer or tablet and learn more about:

- Who is at risk
- Types and stages of lung cancer
- Treatment options, including surgery
- Plus, Q&A with the surgeon

Thur., Feb. 10 | 6-7pm



PRESENTER:
Daniel Walker, MD
Thoracic surgeon

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:

Call 1.855.HHC.HERE (1.855.442.4373) or go to HartfordHealthCare.org/VirtualClasses.

After you register, you'll receive an email with easy instructions on joining the virtual class.



Hackers preying harder on schools

Rise in cyberattacks adds to list of woes amid the pandemic

By Cedar Attanasio Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — For teachers at a middle school in New Mexico's largest city, the first inkling of a widespread tech problem came during a staff call.

On the video, there were shout-outs for a new custodian and the typical announcements. But no one could open attendance records and everyone was locked out of class rosters and grades.

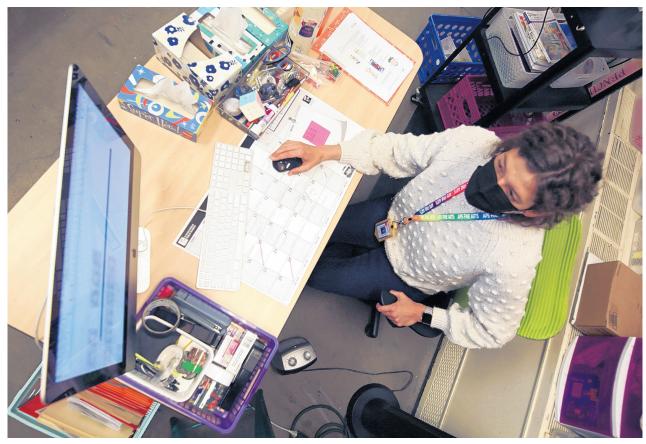
Albuquerque administrators later confirmed the outage that blocked access to the district's student database — which also includes emergency contacts and lists of which adults are authorized to pick up which children — was due to a ransomware attack.

"I didn't realize how important it was until I couldn't use it," said Sarah Hager, an art teacher at Cleveland Middle School.

Cyberattacks like the one that canceled classes for two days in Albuquerque's biggest school district have become a growing threat to U.S. schools, with several high-profile incidents reported since last year. And the coronavirus pandemic has compounded their effects: More money has been demanded, and more schools have had to shut down as they scramble to recover data or even manually wipe all laptops.

"Incidents have both been growing more frequent and more significant," said Doug Levin, director of the K12 Security Information Exchange, a Virginia-based nonprofit that helps schools defend against cybersecurity risk.

Precise data is hard to come by since most schools are not required to publicly report cyberattacks. But experts say public school



Sarah Hager, a New Mexico art teacher, said a cyberattack increased stress on a middle school campus. CEDAR ATTANASIO/AP

systems — which often have limited budgets for cyber-security expertise — have become an inviting target for ransomware gangs.

The pandemic also has forced schools to turn increasingly toward virtual learning, making them more dependent on technology and more vulnerable.

Levin's group has tracked over 1,200 cyber security incidents since 2016 at public school districts across the country. They included 209 ransomware attacks, when hackers lock data up and charge to unlock it; 53 "denial of service" attacks, where attackers sabotage or slow a network by faking server requests; 156 "Zoombombing" incidents, where an unauthorized person intrudes on a video call; and more than 110 phishing attacks, where a deceptive message tricks a user to let a hacker into their network.

Recent attacks also come as schools grapple with

multiple other challenges related to the pandemic. For example, when teachers get sick and there aren't substitutes available.

Albuquerque Superintendent Scott Elder said getting all students and staff online during the pandemic created additional avenues for hackers to access the district's system. He cited that as a factor in the Jan. 12 ransomware attack that canceled classes for some 75,000 students.

The cancellations — which Elder called "cyber snow days" — gave technicians a five-day window to reset the databases over a holiday weekend.

Elder said there's no evidence student information was obtained by hackers. He declined to say whether the district paid a ransom but noted there would be a "public process" if it did.

Hager, the art teacher, said the cyberattack increased

stress on campus in ways that parents didn't see.

Fire drills were canceled because fire alarms didn't work. Intercoms stopped working.

Nurses couldn't find where kids were as positive test results came in, Hager said. "So potentially there were students on campus that probably were sick."

It also appears the hack wiped out a few days worth of attendance records and grades.

Edupoint, the vendor

for Albuquerque's student information database, called Synergy, declined to comment.

Many schools choose to

Many schools choose to keep attacks under wraps or release minimal information to prevent revealing additional weaknesses in their security systems.

"It's very difficult for the school districts to learn from each other, because they're really not supposed to talk to each other about it because you might share vulnerabilities," Elder said.

Last year, the FBI issued a warning about a group called PYSA, or "Protect Your System, Amigo," saying it was seeing an increase in attacks by the group on schools, colleges and seminaries. Other ransomware gangs include Conti, which last year demanded \$40 million from Broward County Public Schools in Florida, one of the nation's largest.

Most are Russian-speaking groups based in Eastern Europe. Some will post files on the dark web, including highly sensitive information, if they don't get paid.

While attacks on larger districts garner more headlines, ransomware gangs tended to target smaller school districts in 2021 than in 2020, according to Brett Callow, a threat analyst at the firm Emsisoft. He said that could indicate bigger districts are increasing their

spending on cybersecurity while smaller districts, which have less money, remain more vulnerable.

Days after Christmas, the 1,285-student district of Truth or Consequences, south of Albuquerque, also had its Synergy student information system shut down by a ransomware attack. Officials there compared it to having their house robbed.

"It's just that feeling of helplessness, of confusion as to why somebody would do something like this because at the end of the day, it's taking away from our kids," Superintendent Channell Segura said.

The school didn't have to cancel classes because the attack happened on break, but the network remains down, including keyless entry locks on school building doors. Teachers are still carrying keys they had to track down at the start of the year, Segura said.

New Mexico lawmakers have been slow to expand internet usage in the state, let alone support schools on cyber security. Last week, state representatives introduced a bill that would allocate \$45 million to the state education department to build a cybersecurity program by 2027.

Ideas on how to prevent future hacks and recover from existing ones usually require more work from teachers.

After the Albuquerque attack, parents argued on Facebook over why schools couldn't simply switch to pen and paper for things like attendance and grades. Hager said she even heard criticism from her mother, a retired school teacher.

"I said, 'Mom, you can only take attendance on paper if you have printed out your roster to begin with,'" Hager said.

Teachers could also keep duplicate paper copies of all records — but that would double the clerical work that already bogs them down.



Ind. The major winter storm hit a long stretch of states. **NIKOS FRAZIER/JOURNAL & COURIER**

Big winter storm drops snow, freezing rain, sleet across US

By Kathleen Foody and Jill Bleed Associated Press

A major winter storm with millions of Americans in its path brought a mix of rain, freezing rain and snow to the central U.S. on Wednesday as airlines canceled thousands of flights, officials urged residents to stay off roads and schools closed campuses.

schools closed campuses.

The blast of frigid weather, which began Tuesday night, put a stretch of states from New Mexico and Colorado to Maine under winter storm warnings and watches. On Wednesday morning, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan saw freezing rain, sleet and snow.

and snow.

By midday Wednesday, some places had already reported snow totals exceeding or nearing a foot, including the central Illinois town of Lewistown with 14.4 inches and the northeastern Missouri city of Hannibal with 11.5 inches.

Central Illinois and northern Indiana appeared likely to receive the most snowfall, with expected totals ranging from 12 to 18 inches by the end of Thursday, said Andrew Orrison, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in College Park, Maryland.

Snow had begun to taper off in Missouri by early afternoon but much of the state could wind up with 8 inches to a foot.

Parts of Michigan also could snow totals around a foot by Thursday.

In suburaban Detroit, Tony Haley found an advantage to the weather. He owns a landscaping and irrigation company that offers snow removal and salting services, but the early winter weeks offered few opportunities for business.

opportunities for business.
"This one here, we're looking for a good two, three days of work," Haley said after clearing snow away from several businesses in Canton.

But for those on the roads, the heavy snow created hazardous conditions.

"We're receiving a lot of snow over here in northwest Indiana and it's the wet, slushy snow that causes treacherous driving conditions to say the least," Indiana State Police Sgt. Glen Fifield told Chicago's WFLD-TV.

In central Missouri, officials shut down part of Interstate 70 midday after a crash made the roadway impassable.

Åreas south of the heavy snow were expected to see freezing rain, with the heaviest ice predicted along the lower Ohio Valley area from Louisville, Kentucky, to Memphis, Tennessee.

"If everything holds to where it is right now, this is the real deal," said Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear, who ordered state government offices to close on Thursday.

The storm's path extended as far south as Texas, nearly a year after a catastrophic freeze buckled the state's power grid in one of the worst blackouts in U.S. history.

The forecast did not call for the same prolonged and frigid temperatures as the February 2021 storm, and the National Weather Service said the system would, generally, not be as bad this time for Texas..

Airlines canceled nearly 5,000 flights in the U.S. scheduled for Wednesday or Thursday, the flight-tracking service FlightAware.com

Biden, Dems' agenda at risk as Lujan recovers from stroke

By Lisa Mascaro and Farnoush Amiri Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Democrats' fragile hold on the Senate majority became even more tenuous Wednesday with the sudden illness of New Mexico Sen. Ben Ray Lujan, which sent shock waves through the party and threatens President Joe Biden's Supreme Court pick and lagging legislative

agenda.

The senator's office announced that the 49-year-old Democrat remained hospitalized after suffering a stroke and is expected to make a full recovery. But Senate colleagues were blindsided by the news—even top-ranking leaders were reportedly unaware that Lujan fell ill last Thursday, a stunning oversight. He could be away for at least a month.

Without Lujan's presence, the party no longer has full day-to-day control of what has been an evenly split Senate.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer spoke of the "awful, frightening" situation, but remained hopeful that Lujan would be "back to his old self" before too long and said the Senate would carry on with its business.

The uncertainty illustrates just how precarious the Democrats' hold on power in Washington really is and the limits of Biden's ability to usher what's left of a once-bold agenda through Congress.

Already, routine Senate business was being rearranged Wednesday. The Senate Commerce Committee announced it would be postponing consideration of some of Biden's executive branch nominees because the panel, on which Lujan is a member, needs all Democrats for the votes.

More pressing, though, is the upcoming Supreme



Sen. Ben Ray Lujan suffered a stroke last week. The 49-yearold Democrat from New Mexico remains hospitalized and a full recovery is expected. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP 2018

Court confirmation battle to replace retiring Justice Stephen Breyer. Democrats have been eager to shift to the high court fight, believing it will galvanize voters at a time when Biden's broader legislative agenda, including his sweeping Build Back Better Act and voting legislation, have collapsed.

Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, said the panel is planning to push ahead with consideration of Biden's Supreme Court pick as soon as the president announces his nominee, expected later this month.

"We don't anticipate any difficulties," Durbin told reporters at the Capitol.

The Senate is split 50-50, with Democrats holding a slim majority because Vice President Kamala Harris can cast a tie-breaking vote.

Already Biden's agenda has fallen apart on Capitol Hill, taken down by the one-two punch of Republican opposition and two Democrats, Sens. Joe Manchin of West Virginia and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona, who have joined Republicans to halt the president's priorities.

Lujan's illness is a reminder it's not just Manchin, Sinema and Republican opposition, but the health and welfare of every single senator that could make or break the Democrats' hold on power and the outcome of Biden's agenda.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has stymied both parties, as senators have been forced to isolate after testing positive for the virus or being exposed.

This week two Penulli

This week, two Republicans, Sens. Mitt Romney of Utah and John Hoeven of North Dakota, are working remotely because of positive virus tests.

Asked if progress on the president's agenda could be imperiled, White House press secretary Jen Psaki said, "Life is precious," and noted the average age of senators. It is 64.

"I would just say we spend most of our time engaging in good faith about the president's agenda, and not making those calculations," Psaki said.

Lujan's office announced he checked himself into a hospital in Santa Fe on Thursday. His chief of staff, Carlos Sanchez, said the senator was then transferred to a hospital in Albuquerque for further evaluation.

His office added that Lujan is still in the hospital.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFING

Vindman files lawsuit against Trump's eldest son, Giuliani, ex-aides

From news services

WASHINGTON - A retired Army lieutenant colonel who was a pivotal witness in the first impeachment case against Donald Trump has sued the oldest son of the former president and other Trump allies, accusing them of participating in an "intentional, concerted campaign of unlawful intimidation and harassment" over his decision to testify.

The lawsuit from Alexander Vindman, who testified in 2019 impeachment proceedings about a phone call in which Trump pressed his Ukraine counterpart to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden and his son, Hunter, was filed Wednesday in federal court in Washington. Trump was impeached by the House but acquitted by the Senate in February

The lawsuit names as defendants Donald Trump Jr., Rudy Giuliani, a longtime Trump adviser who has served as Trump's lawyer, and former White House communications officials Dan Scavino and Julia Hahn.

It alleges that after Vindman was summoned by House lawmakers to testify, the defendants and others coordinated and advanced "false narratives" about him, including that he was a spy for Ukraine and had spoken pejoratively about the U.S. to foreign officials; leaked classified information about him; falsely accused him of lying under oath; and worked to derail his expected promotion to colonel.

Vindman, an Iraq war veteran whose family fled the Soviet Union when he was a child, was a key impeachment witness, testifying that he twice raised concerns over the Trump administration's push to have Ukraine investigate Democrats and

Biden. After listening to the July 2019 call between Trump and Ukraine leader Volodymyr Zelenskyy, he said he reported his concerns to a lawyer at the National Security Council.

Vindman says he swiftly became a "household name" thanks to a intimidation campaign laden with falsehoods.

"The attacks on Lt. Col. Vindman did not simply happen by accident or coincidence, nor were they the result of normal politics or modern newscycles," the lawsuit states.

Lawyers for Trump Jr. Scavino and Giuliani did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

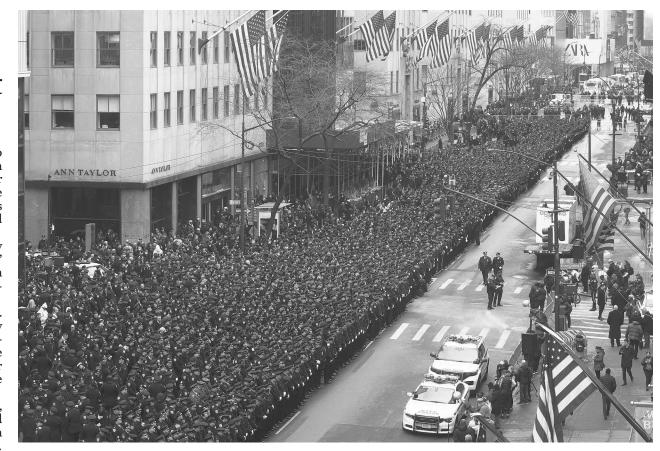
Vindman announced in July 2020 that he was retiring from the Army after more than 21 years and raised similar allegations of harassment, bullying and intimidation as in Wednesday's lawsuit.

Army discharges: The Army said Wednesday it will immediately begin discharging soldiers who have refused to get the mandatory COVID-19 vaccine, putting more than 3,300 service members at risk of being thrown out soon.

The Army's announcement makes it the final military service to lay out its discharge policy for those who refuse the vaccine. The Marine Corps, Air Force and Navy have already discharged active-duty troops or entry-level personnel at boot camps for refusing the shots.

The Pentagon has ordered all service members active-duty, National Guard and Reserves — to get the vaccine, saying it is critical to maintaining the health and readiness of the force. COVID-19 cases continue to surge around the country as a

result of the omicron variant. Roughly 97% of all Army soldiers have gotten at least



Final salute: Police officers line Fifth Avenue outside St. Patrick's Cathedral for Officer Wilbert Mora's funeral Wednesday in New York City. Mora, 27, and his police partner, Jason Rivera, 22, were shot Jan. 21 while responding to a call about a domestic argument. Mora's funeral came shortly after the sixth shooting this year of an NYPD officer. YUKI IWAMURA/AP

one shot. Over 3,000 have requested medical or religious exemptions.

Floyd killing: The federal trial of three former Minneapolis police officers charged with violating George Floyd's rights was suspended Wednesday after one defendant tested positive for COVID-19.

Judge Paul Magnuson said the trial for J. Alexander Kueng, Thomas Lane and Tou Thao won't resume until Monday. They are accused of depriving Floyd of his rights when they failed to give him medical aid as Officer Derek Chauvin knelt on the Black man's neck for 9 ½ minutes while Floyd was handcuffed, facedown and gasping for air. Kueng and Thao are also accused of failing to intervene in the May 2020 killing that triggered protests worldwide and a reexamination of racism and policing.

The judge said that one of the defendants tested positive, but didn't name him, and a news release from the

courthouse identified the person only as a "case partic-

Moore libel lawsuit: A jury Wednesday found that no defamation occurred between former U.S. Senate candidate Roy Moore and the woman who accused him of molesting her when she was

In allegations that roiled the 2017 Senate race in Alabama, Leigh Corfman said Moore sexually touched her in 1979 when she was a teen and he was a 32-year-old assistant district attorney. Corfman filed suit alleging Moore defamed her by branding her a liar when he denied the accusations. Moore countersued, claiming Corfman injured his reputation with false allegations meant to hurt him politically.

The jury deliberated for about three hours before ruling that neither party had prevailed in their claim against the other.

Corfman's allegations, first

reported by The Washington Post, upended Moore's Republican campaign in 2017 and he lost to Doug Jones, a former federal prosecutor who became the first Alabama Democrat elected to the Senate in 25 years. Jones lost the next election to Republican Tommy Tuberville, who now holds the Senate seat.

Fertilizer plant fire: An uncontrolled fire at a fertilizer plant in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, continued to burn Wednesday, forcing firefighters and thousands of evacuated residents to remain at least a mile away because there could be a large explosion.

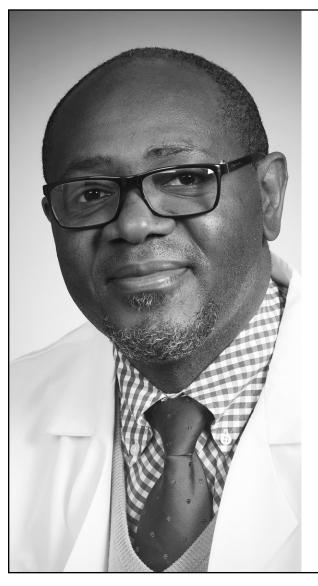
Fire officials did not know when the blaze might die down. The fire, which consumed the Winston Weaver Company fertilizer plant on the north side of the city, began Monday. No injuries were reported.

About 500 tons of combustible ammonium nitrate were housed at the plant and nearly another 100 tons of the fertilizer ingredient were in an adjacent rail car. That's more of the chemical than was present at a blast at a 2013 Texas fertilizer plant blast that killed 15 people, Winston-Salem fire officials said.

Violence in Congo: Militiamen attacked a camp for people fleeing violence in Congo's eastern Ituri province overnight, killing at least 60 people staying at the shelter, local officials said Wednesday.

Fighters with the group known as CODECO arrived at the Plaine Savo displaced persons site in Djugu and killed dozens of people using machetes and other weapons, said Ndalo Budz, who is the head of the camp.

The CODECO militia and the Allied Democratic Forces are active in the eastern Congo region and killed dozens last year. The violence has caused the suspension of humanitarian agencies in a part of Congo.



Trinity Health Of New England **Medical Group Welcomes** Andre Immanuel, M.D.

Geriatric Medicine Specialist

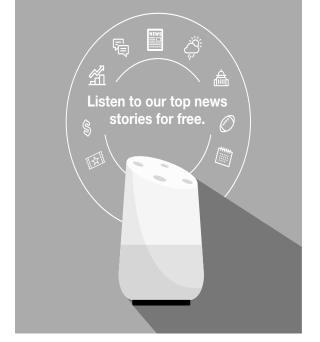
Andre Immanuel, M.D. is Board Certified in Family Medicine and recently completed a fellowship in geriatric medicine at the State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Medical Center. He has practiced family medicine and served as a clinical assistant instructor at SUNY Medical Center and King's County Hospital. Previously, he served as a resident in family medicine at the same facility. In 2017, Dr. Immanuel earned a Masters of Public Health in Healthcare Management and Policy from SUNY Downstate.

Dr. Immanuel received his Doctor of Medicine from the American University of Antigua College of Medicine. He also received an M.B.A. in Healthcare Management from Plymouth State University.

Dr. Immanuel will be accepting new patients in Hartford. For appointments, please call 860-714-4749.







Staying in the know is easy.

Each weekday, you'll get the latest stories curated by our editors on your smart speaker or streaming service. Available on Amazon Echo, Apple Music, Google Home, Spotify and more.

Start now at PlayOurNews.com

Daily Press Chicago Tribune Hartford Courant The Virginian-Pilot THE BALTIMORE SUN THE MORNING CALL **Orlando Sentinel** SunSentinel **DAILY®NEWS**

Tribune Publishing Company

Zucker out at CNN after amorous ties to co-worker

Resignation raises questions about network ahead of parent company's merger

By Michael M. Grynbaum

The New York Times

Jeff Zucker resigned Wednesday as president of CNN and chair of Warner-Media's news and sports division, writing in a memo that he had failed to disclose to the company a romantic relationship with another senior executive at CNN.

Zucker, 56, is among the most powerful leaders in the American media and television industries. The abrupt end of his nine-year tenure immediately throws into flux the direction of CNN and its parent company, Warner Media, which is expected to be acquired later this year by Discovery Inc. in one of the nation's largest media

In a memo to colleagues that was obtained by The New York Times, Zucker wrote that his relationship came up during a network investigation into the conduct of Chris Cuomo, the CNN anchor who was fired in December over his involvement in the political affairs of his brother, former Gov. Andrew Cuomo of New York.

"As part of the investigation into Chris Cuomo's tenure at CNN, I was asked about a consensual relationship with my closest colleague, someone I have worked with for more than 20 years," Zucker wrote. "I acknowledged the relationship evolved in recent years. I was required to disclose it when it began but I didn't. I was wrong.

"As a result, I am resigning today," he

Zucker was referring to Allison Gollust, CNN's executive vice president and chief marketing officer and one of the highest-ranking leaders of the network, who is closely involved in major business and communications decisions.

Gollust said in a statement Wednesday that she was remaining in her role at CNN. "Jeff and I have been close friends and professional partners for over 20 years," she wrote. "Recently, our relationship changed during COVID. I regret that we didn't disclose it at the right time. I'm incredibly proud of my time at CNN and look forward to continuing the great work we do everyBoth Zucker and Gollust are divorced.

Chris Cuomo has contested the terms of his departure from CNN, which said it would not pay him severance or honor the remainder of his current contract. The anchor hired Hollywood litigator Bryan Freedman to represent him in negotiations with the network.

Zucker had stood by Cuomo for months after it was revealed that the anchor had advised aides to Andrew Cuomo on how the governor could fend off the sexual harassment scandal that eventually led to his resignation. But Zucker dropped his support in December after more details emerged about Chris Cuomo's involvement, including efforts to uncover the status of pending articles at other news outlets about his brother.

Days before Cuomo was fired, CNN was informed of an allegation of sexual misconduct against Cuomo by a former junior colleague at another network. Cuomo has denied that allegation.

Zucker started at CNN in January 2013 after leaving as CEO of NBCUniversal.



By Samuel Petrequin Associated Press

BRUSSELS — The European Union on Wednesday proposed including nuclear energy and natural gas in its plans for building a climate-friendly future, dividing member countries and drawing outcry from environmentalists as "greenwashing."

The green labeling system from the European Commission, the EU's executive arm, defines what qualifies as an investment in sustainable energy in the 27-nation bloc. Under certain conditions, gas and nuclear energy could be part of the mix, making it easier for private investors to inject money

The plan seemed designed to please the EU's two most powerful nations: France is reliant on nuclear power, which raises concerns about long-term impact on the environment, and Germany depends on gas, a fossil fuel many consider a bridge to

But Steffi Lemke, the German environment minister, lambasted the plan over its nuclear power provision.

"Today's decision by the European Commission is unacceptable. Like many other EU member states, Germany is clearly and unequivocally against the inclusion of nuclear power in the taxonomy," she said.

"Nuclear power is anything but sustainable, it is risky, too expensive, and the construction and planning processes are too lengthy to contribute to climate neutrality by 2050."

EU members Austria and Luxembourg already have raised the possibility of legal disputes as they challenge the green notion

The commission says including nuclear and gas as transitional energy sources does not amount to a free pass and aims to accelerate efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

OPEC+ keeping

planned output

FRANKFURT, Germany - OPEC and allied producing countries are sticking with cautious increases in the amount of oil they send to the global economy, a decision likely to support prices that are near seven-year highs amid fears of a Russian military move

The alliance of OPEC members led by Saudi Arabia and non-members led by Russia agreed Wednesday to add 400,000

barrels per day in March. That is in line with plans by the OPEC+ group to add that amount of oil every month and gradually restore deep cuts made during the depths of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020.

The move comes as oil prices hover near

their highest levels since 2014, pushing up

gasoline costs for drivers.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

against Ukraine.



Mexican workers with seasonal jobs awaiting them in the United States make their way across the Puerta Mexico international bridge toward Brownsville, Texas. Remittances sent back to Mexico often help rural communities survive. REBECCA BLACKWELL/AP 2019

Working to keep lifelines alive

Remittances to Mexico expected to top \$50B, but sustainability is questioned

By Mark Stevenson Associated Press

COMACHUEN. Mexico - Mexico's remittances, the money migrants send home to their relatives, have soared in the past two years, and are now expected to top \$50 billion for the first time once 2021's figures are added up. That would surpass almost all other sources of Mexico's foreign income.

But the boom raises questions: Will Mexicans always have to emigrate? And is it sustainable, or just blip fueled in part by U.S. government pandemic support payments?

In many rural places such as Comachuen in Michoacan state, every store, business and family depends on remittances.

Without these remittances that migrants send back to their families here in Comachuen, the town would have no life," said Porfirio Gabriel, who has spent nearly 13 years working on farms in the United States and now recruits and supervises people to go north.

Remittances as a percentage of Mexico's GDP have almost doubled over the past decade, growing from 2% of GDP in 2010 to 3.8% in 2020, according to the government. Between 2010 and 2020, the percentage of households in Mexico receiving remittances grew from 3.6% to 5.1%.

For the first 11 months of 2021, remittances grew by almost 27%. Mexico is now the third largest receiver of remittances in the world, behind only India and China, and Mexico now accounts for about 6.1% of world remittances, according to a govern-

On one hand, the spike was simply a matter of need, caused in part by the coronavirus pandemic. Mexico's GDP shrank 8.5% in 2020, and while the economy recouped about 4.7% of that loss in the first three quarters of 2021, growth appears to have slowed and inflation spiked in the last quarter.

"When a Mexican family suffers illness or their household suffers damage, they receive more. Why? Because, basically, they ask for help, and that is what I think happened here last year," said Agustin Escobar, a professor at Mexico's Center for Research and Higher Education in Social Anthropology.

Ironically, part of that growth may have been fueled by a temporary decrease several years ago in the number of new Mexican migrants heading to the United States and a decline in the relative percentage of migrants without proper documents.

Escobar said that means established migrants face less wage competition from new, young, undocumented arrivals.

And the fact that a smaller percentage of Mexican migrants don't have proper documents than before means more qualified for U.S. pandemic support payments in 2020.

A report by the Liberty Street Economics blog from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York said, "We find that about \$24 billion went to U.S. residents born in Mexico, Central America, and the Dominican Republic in April through September" of 2020 when pandemic support payments began to flow under the CARES Act.

While people in Comachuen report using their money to educate their children and build up businesses, research shows the vast majority of remittances are used for subsistence needs.

That includes buying more food or medicine or much-needed household appliances like refrigerators that will save families on food costs in the long run.

France to offer Pfizer's virus pill

PARIS - France says it will start administering Pfizer's coronavirus antiviral drug Paxlovid this week, the first pill for treating COVID-19 approved in the 27-nation Euro-

The country is still reporting among the world's highest per-capita daily infections, but virus-related critical care hospitalizations are easing, and the French government Wednesday started lifting restrictions related to the surge in omicron cases.

Masks are no longer required outdoors in France, crowds are again allowed in concerts and sports venues and a government order to work from home part time has been lifted.

France has received its first 10,000 doses of Paxlovid, which will be available in pharmacies starting Friday, officials said.

National debt tops \$30 trillion for 1st time

By Alan Rappeport The New York Times

WASHINGTON - America's gross national debt has topped \$30 trillion for the first time, an ominous fiscal milestone that underscores the fragile nature of the country's long-term economic health as it grapples with soaring prices and the prospect of higher interest rates.

The breach of that threshold, which was revealed in new Treasury Department figures released Tuesday, arrived years earlier than previously projected as a result of trillions in federal spending that the United States has deployed to combat the pandemic. That \$5 trillion, which funded expanded jobless benefits, financial support for small businesses and stimulus payments, was financed with borrowed

The borrowing binge, which many economists viewed as necessary to help the United States recover from the pandemic, has left the nation with a debt burden larger than the entire economy, surpassing levels of red ink not seen since World War II.

Some economists contend that the nation's large debt load is not unhealthy given that the economy is growing, interest rates are low and investors are still willing to buy U.S. Treasury securities, which allow the government to borrow money relatively cheaply and use it to invest in the economy.

Yet the figures come amid renewed concerns in Washington over the nation's fiscal trajectory and its ballooning budget deficit, which is the gap between what the nation spends and the revenue it brings in.

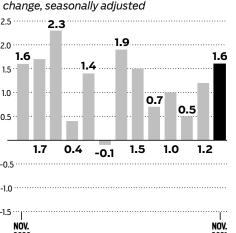
Those worries helped stall negotiations over President Joe Biden's \$2 trillion safety net and climate spending proposal, with Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., citing "staggering debt" as a reason he could not support the legislation.

The lingering pandemic has slowed the momentum of the economic recovery, fueling inflation rates unseen since the early 1980s and raising the prospect of higher interest rates.

The gross national debt represents debt held by individuals, businesses and pension funds, as well as liabilities that one part of the U.S. government owes to another part.

Manufacturing orders

New orders of all goods, monthly percent



SOURCE: U.S. Commerce Department

BUSINESS



The East African country of Uganda is set to proceed with oil production after years of delays. Above, a worker pumping gas in a suburb of Kampala, Uganda. HAJARAH NALWADDA/AP

Uganda, investors to pump over \$10B into oil production

By Rodney Muhumuza Associated Press

KAMPALA, Uganda Uganda and a group of investors this week announced their decision to finally proceed with oil production following years of setbacks that threatened the East African country's efforts to become an oil exporter.

The China National Offshore Oil Corporation and the French energy conglomerate TotalEnergies said Tuesday that the investment in Uganda would be more than \$10 billion.

That sum includes about \$3.5 billion to be spent constructing a nearly 900-mile heated pipeline linking oil fields in western Uganda to the Indian Ocean port of Tanga in Tanzania.

Uganda is estimated to have recoverable oil reserves of at least 1.4 billion

The signing of the final investment decision is a key milestone authorities were eager to reach in the 16 years since the commercially viable quantities of oil were discovered. This means

the investors are firmly committed to extracting Uganda's oil resources and will proceed to award major contracts.

Uganda's efforts to produce oil have been threatened by corruption allegations, tax disputes, and administrative delays.

TotalEnergies CEO Patrick Pouyanne said a ceremony in the Ugandan capital of Kampala marked a "historic" moment and urged unity and trust among the venture partners.

It remains unclear precisely when Uganda will export its first drop of oil, since developing storage sites, processing facilities and other key infrastructure will take time. Authorities expect oil exports to start

Despite anxiety over falling crude prices in recent years, hopes have remained high in Uganda over the potential for oil exports to lift the country of 45 million people into upper middle-income status by

Annual per capita income in Uganda was less than \$800 in 2019.

A 2015 World Bank

study emphasized that the economic benefits would be considerable if local compa-

nies are competitive enough

to win lucrative service

contracts in the oil sector. Authorities hope TotalEnergies and CNOOC will honor commitments to award up to 30% of the contracts to suppliers of Ugandan origin.

But activists have attacked the pipeline project as "irresponsible," saying it isn't compatible with the goals of the Paris climate accord.

Facing pressure to abandon its projects in Uganda, in 2021 TotalEnergies acknowledged "significant social and environmental stakes" posed by oil wells and the pipeline, pledging to proceed responsibly. The conglomerate has said it will limit oil extraction from a popular national park to less than 1% of the protected

The pipeline project could cost more than 12,000 families their land rights, according to the Parisbased International Federation for Human Rights, which has been tracking Uganda's oil projects.

Long-smoldering coal eyed in deadly Colorado wildfire

By Matthew Brown and Colleen Slevin Associated Press

DENVER - A fire raging in an underground Colorado coal field in 1883 sent so much smoke pouring from cracks in the ground that the scene was likened to burning volcanoes and the state's first mining inspector deemed the blaze "impossible to extinguish."

Nearly 140 years later two fires smolder in the now-abandoned coal field near Boulder — the same area where a wildfire last month destroyed more than 1.000 homes and buildings and killed at least one person.

It's still unknown what caused the December blaze that became the most destructive in Colorado history, but Boulder County authorities have said they're investigating the area's abandoned coal mines as one of several possible causes, along with power lines, human activity and other possibilities.

Could smoldering coal have started such a fire?

History says yes with at least two Colorado blazes in the past 20 years blamed on mine fires that spread to the surface.

In Montana this past summer slow-burning coal reserves fanned by winds sparked a pair of blazes that burned a combined 267 square miles in and around the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation.

Across the country at least 259 underground mine fires burned in more than a dozen states as of last September, according to federal Office of Surface Mining data.

There are hundreds and possibly thousands more undocumented blazes burning in coal seams that have never been mined, researchers and government officials say. Globally, such fires are also a prob-



A man watches as a hillside burns on an Indian reservation near Lame Deer, Montana. MATTHEW BROWN/AP 2021

lem, including in Australia, India and South Africa.

As climate change leads to drought across larges swaths of a West already seeing longer and more destructive fire seasons, experts say smoldering coal fires will pose a continuing

Such fires can be ignited by lightning, humans and even spontaneously at temperatures as low as 86 degrees, said Jurgen Brune a Colorado School of Mines engineering professor.

Many are impossible to put out, slowly burning underground as the combustion feeds off a small amount of oxygen present in the coal, he said.

Underground coal seams burn unpredictably and can break through to the surface without warning long after a fire starts, Brune added.

'It's like trying to predict an earthquake," he said.

The fires emit toxic mercury and carbon dioxide and cause sinkholes when the ground's surface collapses into burned cavities below.

The estimated future cost to control the 200 known abandoned mine blazes across the country is almost \$900 million, according to the Office of Surface Mining database.

In Colorado, officials

were monitoring at least 38 underground coal fires as of

At least three efforts were made by authorities to quench or reduce damage from the blaze the state mine inspector first encountered more than a century ago at the abandoned Marshall Mine, located near where investigators believe the fire last Dec. 30 started.

The first came in 1982, when federal officials drilled into the ground to investigate how far the fire extended and later sought to smother it with a 2-foot layer of dirt, according to a U.S. Geological Survey report.

In 2005, a brush fire was traced to a hot vent. Crews removed vegetation in the area and federal officials tried to fill the vent and others with rocks to try to protect against another fire, according to the Office of Surface Mining. In 2016, after federal

officials said the state had taken control of the site, workers excavated and filled in two areas where ground had subsided after fire consumed the underground coal. When the site was visited two years later by workers for a state contractor, they found no evidence of fire.

MARKET RUNDOWN

FUELS

Crude Oil (bbl)

Natural Gas (mm btu)

CLOSE

15,613.77

23,802.26

27,533.60

7,583.00

CHG.

-5.62

+455.12 +1.68%

+47.22

%CHG.

-.04%

+.63%

%

Unleaded Gas (gal)



33,120

37,600

NYSE Comp.

S&P 500

S&P 400

Nasdaq Comp.

Wilshire 5000

Russell 2000

16.904.52

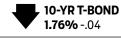
14,417,55

4,589,38

2,662.38

46,045.02

2,029.52



Close: 35,629.33

+74.80

+71.54

+42.84

+237.37

-21.22

-.11

Change: 224.09 (0.6%)



PREV.

88.20

4.75

YTD

+17.35%

+47.48%

+17.00%

%YTD

-1.71%

+2.69%

+1.73%

-4.37%

CLOSE

88.26

5.50

36,800						METALS	i	CL	OSE PREV.		YTD
			Λ		\ \	Gold (oz	2)	1,80	9.20 1,800.30	-1	.00%
36,000			/ V\	.AA /	*\	Silver (d	z)	2	22.71 22.94	-2	.66%
35,200	4	/4	١	(V)	\ /	(Previous a	nd change f	igures reflec	t current contract.)		
/ 4	MI	Λ	V	V	\	Forei	gn Excl	hange	Money	Rate	S
34,400	VY	/			M		ForEx in		_		PREV.
33,600			<u>ii.</u>				U.S. \$	in ForEx	(CLOSE	WK.
00,000 A	S	0	N	D	J	Britain	1.3584	.7362	Prime rate	3.25	3.25
	_					Canada	.7895	1.2666	3-mo. T-Bill	0.20	0.19
	Dome	estic li	ndexes			China	.1572	6.3610	6-mo. T-Bill	0.46	0.44
		005	0110		VTD	Euro	1.1312	.8841	5-yr T-Note	1.60	1.61
	CL	.OSE	CHG.	•	YTD	Japan	.008742	114.39	10-yr T-Note	1.76	1.77
DOW Indus.	35,6	29.33	+224.09	9	-1.95%	Mexico	.048668	20.5474	30-yr T-Bond	2.10	2.08
DOW Trans.	15,7	39.82	+129.3	4	-4.48%						
DOW Util.	9	55.23	+12.6	2	-2.61%			Global	Markets		

-7.85%

-3.71%

4.99%

-9.61%

Stocks of Local Interest

Frankfurt

Hong Kong

London

Nikkei

STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD %CHG	STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD %CHG
AMC Entertainment A (AMC	C) 15.42	-1.44	-43.3	MDJM Ltd (MDJH)	2.44	+.76	+37.1
AT&T Inc (T)	24.54	+.12	2	Meta Platforms Inc (FB)	323.00	+4.00	-4.0
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	122.76	+5.98	-14.7	MetLife Inc (MET)	68.53	+.44	+9.7
American Airlines Gp (AAL)		+.13	-5.6	Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	313.46	+4.70	-6.8
Amphenol Corp (APH)	80.45	+1.33	-8.0	Novartis AG (NVS)	85.91	-2.27	-1.8
Annaly Capital Mgmt (NLY)	7.76	13	8	Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	252.42	+6.04	-14.2
Apple Inc (AAPL)	175.84	+1.23	-1.0	Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)		29	-14.2 -4.4
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	46.55	+.34	-6.7	Palantir Technol (PLTR)	13.32	88	-4.4 -26.9
Bank of America (BAC)	46.89	05	+5.4	Palisade Bio Inc (PALI)	1.02	oo 21	-20.9 -21.5
Barnes Group (B)	45.91	+.40	-1.5		132.57	21 -43.23	-21.5 -29.7
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	2440.98	-24.66	+1.7	PayPal Holdings (PYPL)			
Boston Scientific (BSX)	41.44	-2.06	-2.4	Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	19.74	+.08	+10.8
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	64.80	39	+3.9	Pfizer Inc (PFE)	53.86	+.79	-8.8
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	108.90	+2.63	+5.6	Pitney Bowes (PBI)	4.93	28	-25.6
Carnival Corp (CCL)	20.85	08	+3.6	Prudential Fncl (PRU)	114.80	+1.13	+6.1
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)		+.46	-12.4	Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	67.28	+1.02	+.8
Charter Communic (CHTR)		+3.35	-7.9	Qualcomm Inc (QCOM)	188.20	+11.07	+2.9
Cigna Corp (CI)	230.02	+4.11	+.2	Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	92.54	+1.81	+7.5
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	49.99	+.05	7	Robinhood Markets A (HOO	D) 14.02	63	-21.1
Disney (DIS)	142.62	-1.87	-7.9	Rogers Corp (ROG)	272.90	10	•••
DraftKings Inc (DKNG)	21.79	-1.89	-20.7	SS&C Technlogies (SSNC)	81.74	+1.54	3
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	117.08	74	-8.1	Sirius XM Hldgs Inc (SIRI)	6.68	08	+5.2
Energy Transfer L.P. (ET)	9.96	+.16	+21.0	Snap Inc A (SNAP)	32.07	-1.59	-31.8
Ethan Allen (ETD)	25.16	+.01	-4.3	SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	12.16	-1.11	-23.1
Eversource Energy (ES)	88.68	+.71	-2.5	Sthwstn Energy (SWN)	4.77	+.17	+2.4
Exela Technologies (XELA)	.79	07	-9.9	Spectrum Pharmaceut (SPP		06	-43.2
Exelon Corp (EXC)	42.86	+1.61	+4.0	Square Inc (SQ)	114.04	-13.57	-29.4
Exicure Inc (XCUR)	.25	+.04	+21.3	Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)		-13.57	-29. 4 -7.6
Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM)	80.62	21	+31.8	Starwood Prop Trust (STWD		-1.62	+1.9
Ford Motor (F)	20.63	03 27	7				
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	4.19 17.68		-19.4	Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)		01	-15.7
Gap Inc (GPS) Gen Dynamics (GD)	214.08	60 +1.21	+.2 +2.7	Terex Corp (TEX)	42.32	77	-3.7
Gen Electric (GE)	98.04	+.09	+3.8	Travelers Cos (TRV)	172.72	+4.73	+10.4
General Motors Co (GM)	53.50	57	-8.7	United Rentals (URI)	326.22	-3.79	-1.8
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	73.12	+1.00	+5.9	UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	479.78	+11.37	-4.5
Honeywell Intl (HON)	207.55	+2.21	5	Verizon Comm (VZ)	53.80	+.60	+3.5
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	16.10	+.33	+1.1	Virtus Invest (VRTS)	258.50	-3.49	-13.0
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	23.77	+.25	-6.1	Voya Financial (VOYA)	70.29	+.96	+6.0
Intel Corp (INTC)	49.51	+.56	-3.9	Webster Financial (WBS)	59.38	86	+6.3
Kaman (KAMN)	40.26		-6.7	Wells Fargo & Co (WFC)	55.93	+.33	+16.6
Keycorp (KEY)	25.81	+.26	+11.6	White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1050.54	+1.04	+3.6
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	71.76	+.59	+5.1	World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	49.42	55	+.2
Lucid Group Inc (LCID)	27.68	-2.28	-27.3	XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	66.98	46	-13.5
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	43.64	52	-2.8	Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	22.09	+.03	-2.4
main resorts mit (waw)	73.07	.52	2.0	Acros Holdings corp (XIXX)	22.03	03	2.7

Sweet Deals From Nikon. Nikon



FTZ Lens Adapter with any Z series Mirrorless

Camera purchase

\$199.95[±] \$50 Instant Savings





New FTZ II Lens Adapter with any Z series Mirrorless Camera purchase. \$199.95[±] \$50 Instant





NIKKOR® Z LENSES The front line of the lens revolution. Purchase the NIKKOR Z 28-75mm Purchase the NIKKOR Z 24-50mm Purchase the NIKKOR Z 24-200mm f/4-6.3 lens together with the Nikon Z 5, Z 6, Z

Only and receive the below Instant Savings on the lens:

\$299.95[±] \$100 Instant Savings



\$799.95⁺



receive the below Instant Savings

on the lens:

\$999.95[±] \$200 Instant Savings^{*}

NIKKOR® LENS UNRIVALED EXCELLENCE.

AF-S DX NIKKOR 85mm f/1.8G

AF-S DX NIKKOR 35mm f/1.4G

AF-S DX NIKKOR 105mm f/1.4E ED

Was

\$47995°

\$1,699⁹⁵

\$2,09995°



INSTANT SAVINGS WITH CAMERA PURCHASE Purchase the AF-S DX NIKKOR 18-140mm

f/3.5-5.6G ED VR lens together with any Nikon DSLR and receive the following Instant Savings on the lens:



\$399.95[±] \$100 Instant Savings

\$200*



75 Asylum Street • Hartford, CT 06103 860-525-2159 Convenient Parking Nearby Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5:30pm, Sat 10am-2pm

\$1,89995°





Nikon Authorized Dealer

Instant Savings valid January 31, 2022 through February 27, 2022. *All prices are suggested retail price. Actual selling offer is determined by each dealer at the time of sale. All prices and specifications are subject to change without notice. Instant Savings Offers do not apply to any used, refurbished or reconditioned products. Quantities are limited to in-stock merchandise only. Images are for illustrative purposes only. Nikon is not responsible for printing or typographical errors.

All Nikon products include Nikon Inc. USA limited warranty. ©2022 Nikon Inc.

Helen Bennett

OPINION

COURANT COM / OPINION

Never get used to Trump's contempt for the law

By Jonathan BernsteinBloomberg Opinion

The strongest case for the work of the House select committee investigating the attack on the U.S. Capitol, and for that committee to move quickly to public hearings, is that former President Donald Trump continues to make it clear that he set out to undermine democracy, that he sees nothing wrong with having done so, and that he would do it again if given a

I'd prefer to ignore what Trump is saying, but that's not really an option. He's acting like a presidential candidate — he is, as the political scientist Josh Putnam puts it, running for 2024, although we won't know for some time whether he'll be running in 2024 — so he can't just be ignored.

Over the weekend, Trump told a rally audience in Texas that if he was returned to the presidency he would pardon — well, "consider" pardoning, but the message was pretty clear — those who invaded the Capitol on his behalf. There's nothing new about Trump's abuse of the presidential pardon power as a partisan and personal weapon. He was also explicit when in

office about his desire to use the power of prosecution the same way, and resented being unable to persuade the Justice Department to go along. Still, we should not stop being shocked by a former president, and perhaps a future president, so dismissive of the rule of law.

Also over the weekend, Trump once again made it clear that he had wanted Vice President Mike Pence to "overturn the election" on Jan. 6, 2021, the day Pence exercised his constitutional obligation to approve the certification of Joe Biden's 2020 victory. As The Washington Post's Aaron Blake points out, Trump's statement dispenses with the (totally bogus) scheme that supposedly justified such an action by Pence under the law and the Constitution; Trump simply thinks that Pence should have declared the loser of the election to be the winner, full stop. Trump's disdain for the rule of law should retain the power to shock. It should outrage. It certainly should disqualify him from any place in political life ever again.

Remember: Just over one year ago, seven of the 50 Republican senators voted to convict Trump after his second impeachment, and presumably would have voted to remove his eligibility for future office

for doing what he's bragging about doing and promising to do again. Republican Senate leader Mitch McConnell voted to acquit, but made it clear that he considered Trump guilty as charged and, he said, only refrained from voting guilty because Trump had already left office before the Senate impeachment trial. Several other Republicans seemed to hold the same position as McConnell - most likely enough (given the unanimous votes to convict from the Democrats) to convict, and perhaps enough along with the seven "yes" votes to constitute a majority of Senate Republicans. Others claimed that the evidence of supporting an insurrection and an attempt to upend the constitutional government of the U.S. was insufficient to convict. I don't recall any Republican senator acknowledging that Trump did what he certainly did but arguing that it was fine for a president to scheme to overturn an election.

But as the author David Frum said on Twitter, Trump "never allows his supporters to pretend to be innocent."

The Jan. 6 committee should hold its hearings to make it clear that Trump's boasts are not empty. It is important to detail this extraordinary attempt to destroy U.S. democracy — to make it clear who

was involved and how, and who the heroes were. Especially the Republicans, who had to act against partisan interest.

But in important ways, the Jan. 6 inquiry isn't like the Senate Watergate committee hearings of 1972 or the Iran-Contra joint committee hearings of 1987, in which investigators were still piecing together big questions even as the hearings began. I expect the Capitol riot committee to dig up plenty of important details. But this time, we know in advance that Trump is guilty of acting against the Constitution. If anyone ever doubts it, Trump himself is perfectly willing to remind us.

Rep. Adam Kinzinger of Illinois, one of the two Republicans on the Jan. 6 committee, took to Twitter recently to express his view of Trump's claim that Pence "could have overturned the election" and that it was unfortunate that he did not.

I'll give Kinzinger the final word:
"This is an admission, and a massively
un-American statement. It is time for every
Republican leader to pick a side ... Trump
or the Constitution, there is no middle on
defending our nation anymore."

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Ukraine's leader may be our only hope



Jonah Goldberg

One can only sympathize with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

Vladimir Putin has a dagger aimed at the heart of Ukraine. For months he has mobilized troops along the Ukrainian border. The recent deployment of troops to Ukraine's almost undefended border with Belarus raises the possibility of a blitzkrieg strike against Kyiv, the capital.

Zelenskyy has every reason to lose his cool. And yet, he seems to be the only player in this crisis keeping his eye on the ball. In response to President Joe Biden's gaffe about how a "minor incursion" into Ukraine would probably elicit a more restrained response from America and NATO, Zelenskyy tweeted: "We want to remind the great powers that there are no minor incursions and small nations. Just as there are no minor casualties and little grief from the loss of loved ones."

Last Friday, he chastised Western powers, including the U.S., for fomenting panic by talking about how a devastating war is now imminent and perhaps inevitable. "These signals have come even from respected world leaders, who speak openly and with undiplomatic language. They say simply 'tomorrow there will be war.' This is panic," he said. Zelenskyy reportedly delivered this message to Biden directly.

Sure, Russian officials insist war is the furthest thing from their minds. Putin and his subordinates claim this is defensive deployment. At the U.N. on Monday, Russian ambassador Vassily Nebenzia accused America of "whipping up tensions and provoking escalation," repeating that the last thing Russia wants is war. "You are almost pulling for this," he said to the American ambassador to the U.N., Linda Thomas-Greenfield. "You want it to happen. You're waiting for it to happen, as if you want to make your words become a reality."

Contrary to a growing chorus of commentators in the U.S., mostly on the right, who have rallied to Putin, this is balderdash. In affairs of state, yes, words matter. But you know what speaks even louder? Massing battalions of tanks, artillery and 100,000 troops at your border,



Volodymyr Zelenskyy has taken Western leaders to task for fomenting panic over a war that's not being fought. SERGEI SUPINSKY/GETTY-AFP

almost surrounding a neighboring nation.
Even if that didn't send a clear message,
Russia's claim that an invasion of Ukraine
is unthinkable shouldn't pass the laugh
test. Remember, it's Putin who invaded
Ukraine in 2014 and who has actively
supported insurgents in eastern Ukraine

ever since.

Zelenskyy correctly argues that the
U.S. should have implemented sanctions
against Russia already, both to signal
that Putin's de facto threat of war is itself
unacceptable and to give Putin a taste of
how bad things could be if he keeps up
his aggression. Of course, Zelenskyy has a
very real incentive to solve the challenge

The problem is that everyone else wants to talk about the problem they want to have rather than the problem we face. France, per usual, wants to prove it is a great power unto itself and demonstrate its independence by following an independent diplomatic track. Germany is going its own way too, but not because it wants to preen. It's

still hobbled by guilt over World War II and entangled with Russia culturally and economically, especially because of its dependence on Russian natural gas.

The Biden administration at times seems more interested in proving the glories of diplomacy in all things, the solidity of the NATO alliance, and Joe Biden's own foreign policy expertise. Given his low approval ratings, which never recovered from the Afghanistan fiasco that arguably helped invite this crisis, the administration would also like Biden not to look weak. These are all understandable priorities, but one can see why they are not Zelenskyy's top concerns. Still, the administration can be commended for at least understanding the stakes.

Meanwhile, responsible Republicans like Ohio Sen. Rob Portman are quietly trying to play a constructive role. Kentucky Sen. Mitch McConnell recently said the Biden administration is "moving in the right direction."

The problem is they're too quiet,

drowned out by much louder voices on the right that are increasingly taking a pro-Putin stance and imposing their domestic culture war agenda on the crisis. Tucker Carlson of Fox News insists that "NATO exists primarily to torment Vladimir Putin," as if Putin's propaganda and paranoia are the voice of reason. Carlson asserts that America is "pushing Ukraine to join NATO." It isn't.

Some on the right are convinced that the West is hostile to Putin because he opposes the West's pro-gay agenda. Others are simply letting partisanship cloud their judgment. Nikki Haley, who was the U.S. ambassador to the U.N. under President Donald Trump, offers the not-so-helpful advice that Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris should "resign" (which would make Nancy Pelosi president).

One can only hope that it's Zelenskyy's voice that prevails amid the din.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Call out China's Olympian invasions of privacy, abuses

By Dustin Carmack
The Heritage Foundation

Former NBC sportscaster Bob Costas called it perfectly. The International Olympics Committee's decision to award China the 2022 Winter Olympics deserves nothing but "disdain and disgust."

That's because the Chinese Communist Party has earned the world's disgust, if only for its ongoing genocide of the Uyghurs and other crimes against humanity. This is not a matter of politics. It's a matter of human rights. But apparently, at IOC headquarters, money matters more than human rights.

At the very least, you'd think the IOC would be interested in protecting the rights and freedoms of Olympic athletes. Now that they are in Beijing, the athletes are under the all-seeing eye of an extensive digital surveillance system. The Party says it's to ensure their safety and to control the spread of COVID-19.

Let's take a look at what that actually means for the athletes of the 90 nations

participating in the Winter Games. All attendees and participants are required to download a state-owned (i.e., CCP-owned) app, My2022. Digital researchers at the University of Toronto's The Citizen Lab warn that the app is so riddled with cybersecurity risks, it may even violate China's own recently implemented data security law.

Additionally, researchers found that the app marks approximately 2,442 political keywords for censorship. Phrases like "Xi Jinping," "Dalai Lama," "Tiananmen Square Massacre" and "China has no human rights" are all described in the app's supposedly dormant codebase as "illegalwords.tx."

The practical use of this blacklist remains unclear, but there is one common thread: All of these are politically sensitive terms that thousands of travelers from around the world could use to expose the CCP's vast abuses.

In recent days, another researcher reverse engineered the app on Apple iOS and Android and came to a troubling, albeit not shocking, conclusion: "I can definitively say all Olympian audio is being collected, analyzed and saved on Chinese servers using tech from USA-blacklisted artificial intelligence firm iFLYTEK."

That firm was associated with 27 other Chinese entities placed on the Department of Commerce's list of Chinese businesses and individuals "implicated in human rights violations and abuses in the implementation of China's campaign of repression, mass arbitrary detention, and high-technology surveillance against Uighurs [sic], Kazakhs, and other members of Muslim minority groups."

iFLYTEK can use "voiceprints" to identify individuals through broader databases and has been accused of being used by Xinjiang authorities to monitor and suppress Uyghur Muslims.

Athletes and others attending the games have been advised to use burner phones while in Beijing. But whether they use personal phones or burners, they can expect to have an unwelcome guest spying on their communications via this mandatory app. For the sake of argument, let's suppose the app's potential for invasive surveillance is not as serious as we think. The danger doesn't end with the My2022 and iFLYTEK. Chinese law says that all citizens and businesses "shall" cooperate and provide anything required or requested from Chinese government and intelligence services and "that all network operators must provide data to, and anything requested by, national, military or public security authorities."

While those attending the Olympics must stay vigilant of constant surveillance during their visit, that experience is the day-to-day reality of the Chinese people under Xi's CCP.

Through the usage of facial recognition, AI, extensive camera networks, vast cyber capabilities, censorship and the "Great Firewall," China has created a digital surveillance state, second to none. It is now in the process of proliferating these Orwellian technologies around the globe, as China seeks not only to increase its penetration of technology markets, but also to seed its perverse view of surveillance and suppression to like-minded countries such as Iran and Venezuela.

Xi and the CCP hope that the glamour of the Games and the much vaunted "Olympic spirit" will lead much of the world to turn a blind eye to their ongoing human rights violations and digital authoritarianism that reaches far beyond the fields of competition. But the free world can't afford to check its values at the door when it comes to designing and managing the technologies of the future or making a dollar in the global marketplace

the global marketplace.
During the Games and after the Olympic flame has departed Beijing, it behooves those who believe in freedom of expression, privacy and human rights to speak out against this abusive regime and its pernicious practices.

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency,



To advertise, call 860-525-2525 or placeanad.courant.com

) Stuff

Stuff



BLUESTONE! BLUESTONE!!
BLUESTONE!!
Steps - Sidewalks Patios
We also repair existing steps /

sidewalks / patios 860-633-6612 FIREWOOD 2 cords \$390 includes delivery, 1 cord, call for pricing 860-228-2003

HD RADIO TUNER Digital AM/FM/HD Stereo \$50 860-776-5323

MTD MTD snow thrower E644E for sale \$375. Call 860 521-5986

OSTRINSKY SCRAP Buyers of scrap. Manchester, CT. 860-643-5879

AT YOUR SERVICE

At Your Service



ELEVATOR SERVICE COMPANY aintenance, Repair, Modernization
Servicing All of Connecticut
Competitive Rates and Quality
Service
hartfordelevator@yahoo.com
860-757-3960

L&A MASONRY HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC new basement remodeling basement new bathrooms remodeling bathrooms deck,kitchen,painting, ww.lamasonrylic.com www.lamasonryllc.com (860)378-9843

Steve Dale's PET WORLD Sundays in Smarter Living

SHEDS BUILT ON SITE built on site, rough Sawn lum-ber, well built, full size lumber, shed base included. Call for pricing: 860-228-2003 ctshedsbuiltonsite.com



STONE WALLS Walkways, natural stone. We can break stone into usable wall stone. Pavers, blue stone, patio,

Call 860-633-6612



T101-5 yrs old, bought new, paid \$850, seldomly used, 3x7 mat, \$700. 860-287-6994

TREE WORK Take down, yard expansion, brush clearing & saw mill service. Free written estimates & reasonable rates. 860-228-2003

Wanted To Buy



BUY VINTAGE ELECTRONICS
OLD TOYS, MILITARY JEWELRY,
ADVERTISING WATCHES, MUSCIAL
INSTRUMENTS, CAMERAS,
WATCHES, SIGNS, ART, SPORTS
MEMORABILIA, OLD STUFF,
ANTIQUES, GUITARS, AMPS, TUBE
HI-FI, RECEIVERS, AUDIO EQ,
RADIOS, HAM, CB, SAXOPHONES &
MANY OTHER OLD ITEMS!
CALL 860-707-9350

www.courant.com/pets



Dogs

GOLDEN RETREIVER PUPPIES Ready 1/29, 1st shots & dewormed. \$850. 802-895-2784

GOLDENDOODLES Gorgeous new litter! Teddy bear puppy's, 8wks farm raised, shots, wormed. Parents on site. Health Guarantee. \$2500



LABRADOR RETRIEVER Lab Pups AKC Males, Yellow, Excellent, Temp and health. Blocky heads Shots, Ready Now. \$1400 860-236-5200

AT HOME Get Comfy. Every Friday.

> **Car Reviews** Saturdays in MOTORING



MINI GOLDENDOODLE Puppies! 2 WINI GOLDENDOODLE Puppies! 2 females available yet. Stunningly beautiful colors! Hypoallergenic. Minimal shedding. Will be approx 25-30 pounds full grown. Family raised and loved. Fun loving! Loves People! Sure to win your heart! First shots, vet exams, microchipped, 2 year health guarantee. Ready to go January 26. Delivery options available. \$2,400 Hoosick Falls, NY 802-282-2232 call/text"

> Steve Dale's PET WORLD Sundays in Smarter Living



MINI GOLDENDOODLE Cute, calm and loyal friends raised in our home. Their hypoallergenic coat makes them ideal pets for your home. Our puppies are vaccinated, dewormed and are vet checked by our vet \$250. For availability Call/text Dan at 413.244.6772

LWAYS BUYING MACHI TOOLBOXES Tools & tooling, co MACHINIST nts of machine shops, home workshops & small lathes Call 860-985-5760



ANTIQUES & OLD STUFF WANTED Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Toys, Games, Silver Plated Items, Costume Jewelry, Pottery, Typewriters, Sewing Machines, Clocks, Tools, Xmas, Lanterns, Oil Lamps, Glassware, Knives, Hunting, Fishing, Books. 860-874-8396

PUBLIC NOTICES



Steve Dale's PET WORLD Sundays in Smarter Living

> Steve Dale's PET WORLD Sundays in Smarter Living

ATTENTION: Did you work at The Royal Typewriter facility in Hartford, CT? We would like to speak with anyone that worked at this site between 1950 and 1972. Please contact our offices at (212) 558-5738. 1/31, 2/1, 2/2, 2/3 and 2/4/22 7137043

Connecticut

The Capital Region Development Authority ("CRDA"), a quasi-public agency of the State of Connecticut, is seeking a qualified contractor to serve as a development project coordinator in the Parkville neighborhood. Please see full posting and submission requirements at https://crdact.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/1-27-2022-DevelopmentCoordinator-ParkvilleProjects.pdf 1/28 - 2/13/2022 7138105

Legal Notice Request for Letters of Interest Alternative Contracting Support Services

The Connecticut Department of Transportation is seeking to engage a consultant engineering firm to provide support services for Alternative Contracting Delivery methods. More detailed information regarding this assignment can be found at: https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/Consultant-Selection/Consultant-Selection-Information

ment Coordinator for Parkville Neighborhood Projects Hartford, Connecticut



PINBALL MACHINES - CASH PAID We are looking to buy pinball machines in any condition and will do all moving. Call today! 860 986 4055

> **Car Reviews** Saturdays in MOTORING

> > Steve Dale's PET WORLD

📤) Wheels

Antiques/ Classics

PORSCHE 914 1974 - \$2200 Solid Rolling Chassis Call No Txt 860-209-6629

Auto / Truck Wanted

CASH PAID - for any Toyota, other makes. Any condition. Running or not, crashed okay. Will take other makes and models. 203-600-4431

Steve Dale's Sundays in Smarter Living

Sundays in Smarter Living

Hartford

U-Haul Moving and Storage Company of Manchester West, will sell household and personal items, contained in the following storage rooms due to unpaid storage fees on Wednesday, February 16th, 2022..

Contents to be sold on the premises of 53-71 Spencer St, Manchester, CT 06040 on Wednesday, February 16th, 2022 on Storageauctions.com and close out at

9:00AM.

Purchases to be paid for at the time of purchase, a \$100.00 CASH ONLY deposit will be needed on EACH room purchased. U-HAUL reserves the right to bid or purchase any lot or space. Auction service provided by www.

or space. Auction service provided by www. storageauctions.com Absolutely NO U-Haul Storage customers, or heir family or friends on their behalf, whose units are listed in auction, may participate in any auction proceedings. You MUST contact Marketing Company Storage Manager, Joy Pace, for an appointment to purchase any units won in auction. All persons will be turned away without an appointment.
Contact Joy Pace with any questions or concerns at Joy_Pace@uhaul.com

2/1 & 2/3/22 7133933

Connecticut

Steve Dale's PET WORLD

Sundays in Smarter Living

Connecticut Department of Transportation An Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Employer 2/3/2022 7139334 ROOF REPLACEMENT
NORTH THOMPSONVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
439 Enfield Street
Enfield CT 06082-2453
Project No. 063913

The NORTH THOMPSONVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT (the Owner and Awarding Authority) will receive sealed bids from ROOFING CONTRACTORS for construction of ROOF REPLACEMENT at its North Thompsonville Fire Department building located at 439 Enfield Street in Enfield Connecticut; in accordance with the documents prepared by Leon Pernice and Associates Inc., AlA, Architects-Planners-Interior Designers, 34 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, West Springfield, Massachusetts.

The Project consists of replacement of the existing, 3-levels, membrane type flat roofing systems with new membrane systems and items.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Notice to Proceed for this Project may be issued as much as 90 days from the date the Owner approves the construction contract.

Bild Documents will be available online at www.Projectdog.com beginning on February 2, 2022. Log in and enter the Project Code 847376 in the search box and select "Acquire Documents" for a free, downloadable bid set. A free CD-ROM may be requested by contacting Projectdog shipping & handling charges apply. Hard copies of the documents may be purchased online.

Addenda, if issued, will be posted to the Projectdog website and shall be accompanied by e-mail notification to every individual or firm on record as having received the Bid Documents. It shall be the sole responsibility of the Contractor to ascertain the existence of any and all addenda. Hard copies of addenda will not be mailed or faxed. Neither Owner nor Architect/Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than Projectdog, Inc

Bids will be received until 2:00PM on 23 February, 2022. Deliver bids to Fire Chief Earl F. Provencher at 439 Enfield St, Enfield, CT. Bids must be received no later than the time and date specified; no late bids will be accepted or considered. Telephone or telefax bids will not be accepted or considered. Immediately upon the hour specified for receipt of bids such bids will

Each Bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest

Performance Bond, also Labor and Materials Payment Bond are required.

A pre-bid conference will be conducted on 9 February 2022 beginning 1:00PM. Convene in the rear parking lot of the Fire Department building, 439 Enfield Street, Enfield CT. Minority and Women's Business Enterprises are encouraged to apply.

Hard Copy Contract Documents may be seen (call beforehand) but not removed at: North Thompsonville Fire Department

439 Enfield Street Enfield, CT 06082-2453 Tel. 860-745-2946 Or Leon Pernice and Associates, Inc. 34 Mt. Pleasant Avenue West Springfield, MA 01089 Tel. 413-788-0223 2/2 & 2/3/22 7131800

be publicly opened and read aloud.

Connecticut

U-Haul Moving and Storage Company of Waterbury, will sell household and personal items, contained in the following storage rooms due to unpaid storage fees on Wednesday, February 16th, 2022.

ANTONIO ARAUJO UNIT 0105 UNIT 2040 UNIT 2040 UNIT 1084 UNIT 1085 UNIT 1039 UNIT 0212 UNIT 2047 UNIT 0100 ameka collins Angel Thomas Angel Thomas Angelina Engro Quintin Kinsey Amani Amatus-sabur

Contents to be sold on the premises of 169 Meriden Road, Waterbury, CT 06705 on Wednesday, February 16th, 2022 on Storageauctions.com and close out at

Storageauctions.com and close out at 9:00AM. Purchases to be paid for at the time of purchase, a \$100.00 CASH ONLY deposit will be needed on EACH room purchased. U-HAUL reserves the right to bid or purchase any lot or space. Auction service provided by www. storageauctions.com Absolutely NO U-Haul Storage customers, or their family or friends on their behalf, whose units are listed in auction, may participate in any auction proceedings. You MUST contact Marketing Company Storage Manager, Joy Pace, for an appointment to purchase any units won in auction. All persons will be turned away without an appointment. Contact Joy Pace with any questions or concerns at Joy_Pace@uhaul.com 2/1, 2/3/2022 7133814

Town OF EAST HADDAM

The East Haddam Board of Assessment Appeals will hold public hearings at the Municipal Office Complex at 1 Plains Road, Moodus on Saturday March 12th, 2022 in Meeting Room #3. Hearings begin at 9:00 a.m. Appointments are typically scheduled every 15 minutes based on the order in which applications for appeal are received. The purpose of these public hearings are to hear complaints from taxpayers for Real Estate, Personal Property and supplemental Motor Vehicle assessments. In the event that the number of appeals received exceed the number that can be heard on March 12th, the Board will hold an additional day of public hearings prior to March 31st, at a time to be determined. Taxpayers wishing to appeal their assessments must file a written application postmarked on or before February 20, 2022. Only those persons filing a written application can be heard. Applications may be obtained at the Assessor's Office, 1 Plains Road, Moodus, CT or on the town website at www.easthaddam.org under the tab Board of Assessment Appeals. Applications are to be returned to the Board of Assessment Appeals. Po Box 385, Moodus, CT 06469 or the Assessor's Office. The written appeal shall include, but is not limited to, the property owner's name, name and position of the signer, description of the property which is the subject of the appeal, nem, mailing address, email and phone of the party to be sent all correspondence by the Board of Assessment Appeals, reason for the appeal, be sent all correspondence by the Board of Assessment Appeals, reason for the appeal appellant's estimate of value on October 1 2017, signature of property owner, or duly authorized agent of the property owner, and date of signature. Please provide 3 copies of all pertinent information. The Board shall notify each taxpayer who filed a written appeal in the proper form of the time of the appeal hearing either by phone or US Mail If you require special meeting time considerations please make it known at the time of application.

Dated this 3rd day of February 2022

Edward C. Blaschik, Chairman Justin L. Kennedy
Deborah Langdon
Board of Assessment Appeals 2/3/2022 7142046

Liquor Notices

This is to give notice that I, ALPER T KADIOGLU, 686 THEMAR CT, BALDWIN, NY 11510-3918. Have filed an application placarded 01/27/2022 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a GROCERY BEER PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at 38 W BROAD ST STAMFORD CT 069023715. The business will be owned by AK BEVERAGE LLC. Objections must be filed by: 3/10/22.

ALPER T KADIOGLU 1/27 & 2/3/22 7134277

LIQUOR PERMIT NOTICE OF APPLICATION

This is to give notice that I, KEVIN B. MCDONNELL, 48 CHESTER HILL RD, WARWICK, NY 10990-2556. Have filed an application placarded 01/27/2022 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a GROCERY BEER PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at **590 WINDSOR AVE WINDSOR CT 06095-4046**. The business will be owned by PRRC, INC.. Entertainment will consist of: Objections must be filed by: 03-10-2022.

01/27/2022 KEVIN B. MCDONNELL 1/27, 2/3/2022 7133734

2 Lines 3 Days

To Place An Ad Go Online today courant.com/ advertiser



*Merchandise Ads Restrictions Apply

YOUR PERFECT IS WAITING

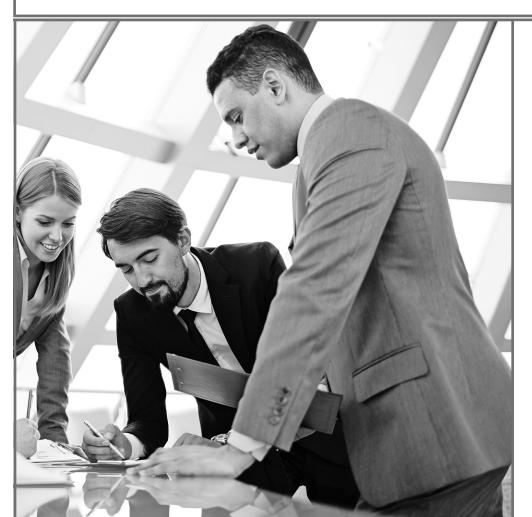
Search jobs. Post your resume. Stand out from the crowd.





tribune publishing recruitment services

courant.com/jobs



YOUR PERFECT HIRE IS WAITING

Stop wasting time searching for talent. Find the right talent with tribune publishing recruitment services.

Extend your reach. Access customized technology. Simplify your search.

courant.com/jobs



OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Other Towns in CT

Susan F. Dwyer

Mary G. Mccool

Marie H. Nichols

Jessica Safford

Carol A. Grossi

Albert F. Muller

Janet A. Jagoda

Irma M. Becker

Allan H. Berman

Roy D. Chipman

Louis Messineo

Steven Christino

Maryann Allcroft

Dorly F. Brunner

Barbara Mclaughlin

Longmeadow, MA

Woodstock, VT Roy D. Chipman

Hollywood, FL

Lydia Kenmore

Maryann Allcroft

OUT OF STATE

Patricia J. Bellmore

Scott F. Beauchemin

Orville Vieth

Gerald J. Mcginley, Sr.

Plainville

Portland

Rocky Hill

Simsbury

Suffield

Tolland

Torrington

Waterbury

West Hartford

Patricia J. Bellmore

Barbara Mclaughlin

Frances Goekler-Morneau

Paul H. Bowler Steven Christino Orville Vieth

Cromwell Irma M. Becker Janet A. Jagoda **East Hampton** Marie H. Nichols

East Hartford Hayes L. Bridges Roy D. Chipman **Farmington**

Scott F. Beauchemin Carol A. Grossi Glastonbury Paul H. Bowler Frederic J. Cannata, Sr.

Granby Dorly F. Brunner Susan F. Dwyer

Arthur B. Locke Hartford Hayes L. Bridges Viola B. Lumpkins

Louis Messineo

Janet Jagoda

Manchester Edward T. Benzing Frederic J. Cannata, Sr. Middletown

Gerald J. Mcginley, Sr. Jessica Safford **New Britain** Mildred Gelmini Kazimierz Kaminski

Albert F. Muller

Denotes name listing only. Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Beauchemin, Scott F.



It is with unfathomable grief that I share the sudden passing of Scott F. Beauchemin, 49, of Burlington, CT on January 5, 2022. Scott is survived by his loving family. John, his father, who taught him the meaning of work ethics. Sandra, his mother, who raised him to be a kind and thoughtful man. Paul, his brother, who never failed to

include him in anything since the day his baby brother arrived in this world. Scott also leaves behind his absolute best friend and the love of his life, Susan, with whom he spent the last 20 years exploring the world and all the ups and downs life delivers. Never have you seen a man like Scott transition from playing basketball or lacrosse with Jackson (13) to coloring or painting clay with Julianna (9), who both brought him copious amounts of happiness. (Please never forget that he loved you both so much.) Scott also had many kind and loving aunts, uncles and cousins, many of which made holidays and family gatherings so very special. Auntie La, those pies of yours were his favorite.

Scott was the Vice President of Engineering for EBM Papst located in Farmington, CT. A loyal and dedicated employee of nearly 25 years, Scott had immense respect and pride in the work his did and the wonderful colleagues he had. It is with those colleagues, both past and present, that we also share this loss with. He was always so proud and grateful to work for a company that was family-oriented and dedicated to quality and always so proud and grateful to work for a company that was family-oriented and dedicated to quality and safety in the products that they manufactured and designed globally. Scott actually enjoyed arriving at work each day and he was always ready and willing to go above and beyond for every employee and customer. Truly a man of integrity, ethics and rationale; one who held himself to a higher standard all on his own accord. It wasn't always business with Scott as he was as avid sports fan. The Mets, Celtics, Islanders and the Patriots as well as professional soccer dominated his mornings with the ESPN recap playing as he prepared for work. Don't even get me started on any golf majors! These sports were all second to the fact that he was so easily lured to the greens of any golf course. Rain or shine, chilly or warm, he was always ready to play. At the first kiss of Spring he would shake off his winter blues and play as many holes as he could get in after work. When "Opening Day" was formally announced, you could find him EVERY Saturday AND Sunday with the "distinguished gentlemen" of Chippanee Country Club in Bristol, CT. Oh, to just read a few lines of that text trail or hear the banter that began on the driving range and ended with "settling un" would provide him with trail or hear the banter that began on the driving range and ended with "settling up" would provide him with enough laughter to carry him through the week. But, as many of you know, he just HAD to send Susan those golf-selfies that he was regularly taunted for! On May 28, 2017, Scott had his first and only hole-in-one on the 3rd hole at Chippannee.

In lieu of flowers, we ask you to visit our gofundme page that several of us have arranged to honor Scott's life and legacy. https://gofund.me/d14a032a. Scott's favorite number was 5 and he passed on the 5th. We have decided to do "5 acts of kindness in Honor of Scott Beauchemin" to various projects that includes introduction to golf for children, Outward Bound, a scholarship to a at St. Paul's High School as well as one to an engineering student bound for WPI. Due to COVID and the health and safety of our loved ones, we have declined an in-person service. Scott was cremated on January 11, 2022 and his remains will be placed amongst his loved ones. If you would like to send a card, prayer or share a story, please do so to S Beauchemin, 222 Main Street, Box #220, Farmington, CT 06032. Our Go Fund Me can be searched by his name. To full Scott's full obituary, please visit www. ahernfuneralhome.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Christino, Steven



Steven Christino of Bristol, CT, passed away suddenly on January 27, 2Ó22, at the áge of

A Celebration of Life will be held at 11AM on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Ave., Bristol, CT 06010, with a remembrance service beginning at 12PM. Burial will be private and at the convenience of Steve the family requests in

of the family. In honor of Steve, the family requests in lieu of flowers a donation be made to an animal charity of your choice. To view Steve's full obituary and a livestream of Steve's funeral services please visit our website www.FunkFuneralHome.com



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Stories live on. Tell theirs. Hartford Courant

Legacy.com



OBITUARIES

Allcroft, Maryann (Emery)



Maryann E. Allcroft passed away on 1/25/2022 in East Longmeadow, MA at the age

Maryann is survived by 3 of her children; Kevin and his wife Kay of Orrington ME; Kristian and his wife Dawn of Barrington, IL: Alissa Barrow and her husband Robert of Enfield CT and 4 grandchildren Kyle Allcroft, Kody

Allcroft and wife Kelsey, Jacqueline Barrow and Sophia Allcroft and her sister Elizabeth Frost of Andover, NH and her brother Gil Emery and wife Ruth of Woodstock VT. She was preceded in death by her husband Richard (Dick) Allcroft, her son, Stephen Allcroft and her brother

Maryann was born on July 14, 1937, in Claremont, NH. She graduated from Woodstock High School in 1955 and went on to attend Burdett Junior College in Boston,

Maryann loved jazz music, playing the piano, swimming, ice skating, old movies, gardening, birds, water-falls, family vacations and Vermont. While raising her 4 children, she worked in the West Hartford CT school system and later happily worked at El Hogar to provide low-cost housing in Hartford CT. Next she worked at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving for many years. In 2005, Maryann was overjoyed to return to her beloved Vermont, purchasing a home in Perkinsville, where she lived until January 2019. She was also active in the Woodstock HS alumni association.

A Celebration of Life will be held in Vermont later this year. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Woodstock Community Food Shelf in Woodstock, VT.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Benzing, Edward T.



Edward T. Benzing, 92, of Manchester, husband of the late Mildred Benzing, died Saturday, January 22, 2022, at home surrounded by his family. Born in Balitmore, MD to the late Edward and Anna (Kleylein) Benzing, he was employed by Aetna as a safety engineer. Ed and Millie loved to travel,

loved the game of golf and were very proud of their holes-in-one! Their love of

family was evident by all the photos found around their

Edward is survived by his son David Ullrich and his wife Alicia of Gettysburg, PA; his grandchildren Joshua Ullrich and his wife Jessica, Daniel Ullrich and his wife Roselle, Sarah Landreth and her husband Kenny, Jennifer Leach and her husband David and Kevin Deans and his wife Jennifer; 11 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. He was predeceased by his wife Mildred, daughter Pamela Deans, son-in-law William Deans and brothers Richard and Charles Benzing. Family and friends may call on the John F. Tierney Funeral Home, 219 W. Center St., Manchester, CT, on

Saturday, February 5th, at 1:00 p.m. for a funeral home service or join the service live on zoom. For online condolences and to get livestream information, please visit www.tierneyfuneralhome.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Chipman, Roy D.

Roy D. Chipman, born March 3, 1952. Roy grew up in East Hartford and attended Penney High School and CCSU. He worked as a computer programmer at Aetna. Roy lived in Granby and Suffield, CT., Fort Lauderdale, FL. and most recently in Hollywood, FL.

He was the son of the late Maxwell G. and H. Alicia Chipman. He leaves his brother Gary (Susan) Chipman and sister Gail (Gary) Lamagna all of Suffield, nieces and nephews Jacob and Sarah Chipman, Nathan and Andrew Lamagna and Alida Lamagna-Kendell.

A private scattering of ashes and memorial celebration of his life will be held at a future date.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Cannata, Frederic J., Sr.



Frederic John Cannata, Sr., 85, of Manchester passed away unexpectedly, yet peacefully on Monday, January 31, 2022 at home. He was the beloved husband of Elizabeth "Betty" (Pogozelski) Cannata. Married for over 62 years, Fred was a devoted husband, grandfather and great grandfather, who loved his family immensely. He was truly the core

of his family. He was dedicated to making a wonderful home for them in East Hartford and then Glastonbury where they resided for over 40 years. Through the years he created beautiful memories for his family and friends, which will be cherished forever. Wiith all óf his heart he gave his steadfast support and his time. His love and care for his grandchildren was undeniable, from Sunday afternoon tea parties after church to the sidelines of their sporting events and everything in between. Fred loved social events and always made those around him feel special. He will be greatly missed by all who had the blessing of knowing him. He was a long time member of St. Dunstan's Parish, his devotion to the Catholic faith guided him through life's journeys. In addition to his wife, he is survived by five children, Anne-Marie Cannata McEwen and her husband Michael of Middletown, Frederic J. Cannata, Jr. (Rick) and his wife Anna of WA, Bonnie-Jean Dickenson and her partner Gary Rothe of FL, Joseph A. Cannata of Leavenworth, WA, Christopher M. Cannata and his wife Pamela of Glastonbury, five grandchildren, Ellyce Brower and her partner Jacob Stormo, Maria Brower, Nile Brower, Michael Cannata and Giovanni Cannata, two great grandchildren Indica Webb and Elliot Stormo, two brothers Joseph R. Cannata and his partner Sue Seyffert of TX, Richard P. Cannata and his wife Charlotte of NH, his sister Christine Baker of NY, a loving brother-in-law Tom Pogorzelski and his wife Carolyn of NJ, and many loving nieces and nephews. Fred was predeceased by his nephew Scott Baker. Born in Brooklyn, raised in Malverne, Long Island, NY, Fred was the son of the late Joseph P. and Elvira (Federico) Cannata. He graduated with a Chemical Engineering degree from the University of Notre Dame and worked at Pratt and Whitney for 41 years, retiring in 1999. There he met life-long friends, co-workers Bruce Barbieri and Tony Fiorentino. Together with their wives, Claire and Gay respectively, they traveled the world and had many great times together, Fred bringing along his favorite Perfect Manhattans wherever he went. A Mass of Christian Parisid will be collected on Schurdey Enbrucer. Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, February 5, 2022 at 10:00 am at St. Dunstan Church, 1345 Manchester Rd., Glastonbury. Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery. Friends may call on Friday, February 4, 2022 from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com.

MULRYAN

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Berman, Allan H.



ALLAN H. BERMAN, 90 of passed Simsbury peacefully on January 20, 2022. He was born in Hartford to Leo Berman and Gertrude (Soifer) Berman. Allan graduated from the American School for the Deaf in West Hartford. He was a linotypist for the Hartford Times newspaper until it closed in 1976. He then worked for Pratt and Whitney Aircraft in East

Hartford until his retirement. He then enjoyed driving a shuttle bus for Papa's Dodge for a few years. Allan was an active member of the Hartford Club for the Deaf in East Hartford as well as the Deaf Senior Center in Newington. He loved playing Bingo with all his friends. Allan was an avid Coca Cola collector, a great history buff and collected stamps and coins.

He leaves behind his son Gary Berman and wife Joy (Bernier) of Simsbury and son Ronnie Berman of Simsbury. He leaves behind five grandchildren; Jeromy Berman of Simsbury; Nicholas Berman of Warwick, Ri Joshua Berman of Denver, Colorado; Matthew Berman of Southington and Candice Berman of San Diego, California. Allan also has a great-grandson Jacob Berman of Warwick, RI and a nephew Mark Kusnetz and two nieces, Robin Heil and Jill Salarno, both of Irvine, California. Funeral arrangements are through the Hebrew Funeral Association in West Hartford. The family will have a private graveside service at the Hartford Mutual Society Cemetery in East Granby. Memorial contributions suggested to the American School for the Deaf 139 N. Main Street West Hartford, 06107 or to the charity of the donors' choice.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Becker, Irma M.



Irma M. Becker, 91, passed away on January 29, 2022. For 66 years, she was the devoted spouse of Leo J. Becker, who predeceased her in 2016. Irma was the caring, loving mother of Patricia Phillippi of Cromwell, CT, Katherine Becker and Paula Johnson of Gaithersburg, MD, Craig Becker of Windham, ME, and Nancy Reynolds of

Yarmouth, ME. In addition to her children, she is survived by her grandchildren, Tara Phillippi and Christopher Phillippi, and great grandchildren, Mackenna Flick and Kaitlyn Phillippi.

Born in New Jersey, Irma and Leo relocated to the Cromwell area to be near family. Reflecting her proud Italian heritage, one of her greatest joys was the gathering of extended family, which included family friends, to enjoy a wonderful meal she had prepared. Irma's love of family, cooking and creative endeavors lives on in family members.

The family expresses its deep appreciation for the kind, empathetic care provided to Irma by Caregiving by Kathy and by Compassus Hospice. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the CT Food Bank (https://www.ctfoodbank.org). Cromwell Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. To share memories or send condolences to the family, please visit www.doolittlefuneralservice.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Figueiredo, John A. "Joao"



John Andrade "Joao" Figueiredo, 94, of East Hartford, beloved husband of over 71 years to Maria Loura (Bairos) Figueiredo, peacefully entered into the arms of our Lord on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at his home with his loving, caring wife and adored

Santa Maria, Azores on August 8, 1927, a son of the late Manuel and Maria (Andrade) Figueiredo, he came to the United States with his wife and five children on May 4, 1960. A hard worker, John worked many years for King Construction Company prior to his retirement. He was a talented stone mason who loved building walls and walkways for family and

A devout Catholic, John was a faithful communicant of St. Rose Church, East Hartford and was very devoted to the Holy Spirit. He was a co-founder and an active member of The Holy Ghost Portuguese Society in East Hartford. He enjoyed being outside in his vegetable and flower gardens and taking care of his yard. He also loved making homemade wine for everyone to enjoy, especially at family dinners, holidays, and celebrations Most of all, John was a proud, devoted husband, father, and grandfather who took pride in his home and cherished the special time with his entire family. He was loved by all and will be sadly missed by all who knew

John and Maria had six beloved children, one of whom was his predeceased infant son, John Figueiredo, and is survived by Maria L. Cerejo and her husband Armindo, Joseph Figueiredo and his wife Nicole, Antonio Figueiredo and his wife Susan, Conni M. Levesque, John B. Figueiredo and his wife Sandra; twelve adored grandchildren, Joyce Day and her husband Michael, John Cerejo and his significant other Dana, Christina Bellizzi and her husband Justin, Nicolas Figueiredo, Erica Figueiredo, Jeremy Levesque and his wife Cassie, Chantal Obermeier, Meghan Figueiredo and her fiancée Michael, John Patrick Figueiredo, Alyssa Brown and her husband Lucas, Philep Levesque and his significant other Jessica, Dylan Figueiredo; eleven cherished great-grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and seven step great-grandchildren. He also leaves a sister, Maria Luis of Canada; five sisters-in-law; two brothers-in-law; many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends. Besides his parents and infant son, John was predeceased by his in-laws, Antonio and Marianna (Loura) Bairos; five brothers; one sister; several sistersin-law and brothers-in-law.

Funeral service will be Monday (February 7, 2022) with a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated at 10:30 am at St. Rose Church, 33 Church Street, East Hartford. Burial will be immediately following at Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. The family asks that everyone please go directly to the church on Monday morning. John's family will receive relatives and friends on Sunday (February 6, 2022) from 3 – 6 pm at the D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford. Facemasks are required at all of the services by all who attend. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in John's name may be made to Foodshare, 450 Woodland Avenue, Bloomfield, CT 06002 or MACC Charities, P.O. Box 3804, Manchester, CT 06045-3804. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family,

please visit www.desopoeh.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

isit the obituary section on courant.com to share memories of loved ones.

Brunner, Dorly F.



Dorly F. Brunner, 92, of Granby, passed away peacefully on January 28, 2022 at home surrounded by family. She was born in Nesslau, Switzerland to the late Jakob and Emma (Gabi) Forrer. Raised and educated in Switzerland, Dorly was an avid climber, mountaineer skier and member of ski patrol before emigrating to the United States in 1956. She

worked as a nanny and language teacher for several years in the New York area. She continued to hike and ski, travelling through most of the USA before continuing her education in banking. She met her husband Walter in 1962 and began raising a family. After a time they settled in West Hartford, where they lived happily for over 40 years. It was there that she became an active member of the Bloomfield Congregational Church and worked for many years at CBT Bank. Dorly shared her passion for the outdoors and travel with her children and all of her friends. She was also an inspira-tion to everyone with her multitude of volunteer activities. She received Volunteer of the Year honors from various organizations and was the grateful honoree of the Hartford Courant's Volunteer Recognition Program. Along with her varied efforts within the Bloomfield Congregational Church, her volunteer activities were focused around the Heart Fund Foundation, Connecticut Public Television and Radio, Covenant to Care, and Girl Scouts. Within the Church, many of her activities involved food preparation and the organization of receptions. She was renowned both within that community, as well as amongst her family and friends, for her delicious meals and sense of taste in organizing a gather-She is survived by her children; her daughter, Gabrielle Brunner and her partner Christopher Lorenz of Granby, her son; Eric Brunner and his wife Denise Brunner of West Hartford and her daughter, Christeli Brunner and her wife Hope Payson of Barkhamsted, her grandson; Kyle Brunner of West Hartford. She was predeceased by her husband Walter and her brother Hans Forrer. A small private memorial service will be held in her honor at the Bloomfield Congregational Church at a later date. In honor of Dorly's love of life, the family will also host a Celebration in her honor on Saturday, May 8th. Details to be communicated. In lieu of flowers, donations in Dorly's memory may be made to Foodshare, 2 Research Parkway, Wallingford, CT 06492 or Loaves and Fishes, 646 Prospect Ave., Hartford, CT 06105. For condolences, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Goekler-Morneau, Frances



Frances Goekler-Morneau, 80, of New Haven, passed away on January 31, 2022 at Health Rehabilitation Center. A lifelong educator and community advocate, she is survived by her husband Normand and children Annette Flathers of Granville, OH and Norm (Sagar) Morneau of Chicago, IL. She also leaves

behind five cherished grandchildren and six adored great-grandchildren, as well as many God-children, nieces and nephews.

Frances was born in New Haven on May 9, 1941 to the late Frank and Margaret Goekler, she is also survived by three sisters Margaret Marlowe, Sr. Eleanor Goekler,SMIC, Helen (Art) Macauley and her in-laws Henry (Virginia) Morneau, Lorraine McCarthy, Donna (Al) Renkewitz and Rosalie Killian. She is predeceased by her brother Rev. Thomas Goekler, MM, son Joseph Morneau and brothers-in-law Bob Marlowe, Jim Killian

She grew up in Westville, attending St. Aedan's Church and St. Mary's High School where she was actively involved in Girl Scouts, leading a troop to the national jamboree in Colorado. She attended St. Joseph College in West Hartford for her undergraduate degree before pursuing a Master's Degree in Elementary Education from Southern Connecticut State University. An active adventurer she road-tripped across the US making it as far as Anchorage, Alaska. She also taught elementary school in the Caribbean before coming back to the US to teach in the Hamden/New Haven/North Haven area. After marrying she continued to teach in parochial schools, adult education classes, private tutoring for students who needed extra attention and English as a second language courses for people in need. A couple of cherished pastimes included camping with her husband in many places in the Northeast, as well as codesigning gifts of wood, then crafted by her husband.

Frances was also active with her local community in Fair Haven, participating with the Democratic committee to help at elections and encourage everyone to have a voice in the community. She worked to advocate for minority rights, working with numerous charities including the Amistad Catholic Worker House in New

She was active in her faith community, most recently at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Fair Haven. She was also a proud member of the Catholic Charity league throughout her lifetime participating in many of their activities and building lifelong friendships.

Calling hours will be Friday evening at 4:00-7:00pm. at Hamden Memorial Funeral Home, 1300 Dixwell Ave. Please note that we are practicing social distancing during the calling hours. Family and friends are asked to go directly to Church for, A Mass of Christian Burial will be at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 397 Ferry St., New Haven Saturday at 10:00 am. Internment will follow in All Saints Cemetery. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the Amistad Catholic Worker House of which she was a devoted supporter. Condolences may be expressed at www.hamdenmemorialfuneralhome

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Lumpkins, Viola Beatrice



Viola Beatrice Lumpkins, 76, of Bloomfield, CT departed this life on Saturday, January 22, Viola was born in Portsmouth, VA to the late Carl Green and Marie (Willis) Green on January 30, 1945. A celebration of Viola's life

will take place on Saturday, February 5, 2022, at 10:00am with a calling hour from 9:00am – 10:00am at Greater Refuge Church of Christ, 370 Garden Street, Hartford,

CT 06112. Interment will be held at Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery, 1 Cottage Grove Road, Bloomfield, CT 06002. To leave a message of comfort for the Lumpkins family and view the full obituary, please visit, www.hkhfuneralservices.com



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Bridges, Hayes Lebron

OBITUARIES



Hayes Lebron Bridges, 53, of East Hartford, beloved husband for 34 years of Linda Bridges, passed away on Saturday, January 15, 2022, at St. Francis Hospital as a result of complications due to COVID. Born in Hartford on October 17, 1968, son of Jimmy Iverson, Sr. of Fayetteville, NC and Bridges Brenda Hartford, he was also raised

by his loving grandparents, Roland and Emma Bridges in Hartford and was a graduate of Hartford Public High School, Class of 1988. After high school, Hayes worked in various jobs and later took a position at Community Renewal Team (CRT) in Hartford. Hayes started working there as a sous chef and found his passion for making great food and helping other people. Hayes worked at CRT for the next 26 years where he built many lifelong friendships and helped countless people in the Greater Hartford area. Hayes oversaw food preparation for the Meals on Wheels program. He took great pride in the work that he did to make his community a better place and was always willing to go the extra mile to make sure everyone was provided with a home-cooked meal. An avid sports fan throughout his life, Hayes loved watching any sport but never missed his favorite team, the Dallas Cowboys. In his spare time, he enjoyed watching cooking shows, classic car shows, and programs on car restoration. Besides his loving wife, he leaves to mourn his passing, five children, Hayes Craig Bridges of Pasadena, MD, Brian C. Chapman of New Britain, Chassidy Chapman of Manchester, Jalissa Bridges of Hartford, and Rashan Bridges of East Hartford; six grandchildren, Jahnye, Christopher, Arianna, Sidney, Armani, and Nasir; two brothers, Quincy Bridges-Hightower and his wife Jenny of Bristol, and Jimmy Iverson, Jr. of Spring Lake, NC; two sisters, Achamma Bridges of East Hartford, and Shawanna Iverson-Henderite of Charlotte, NC; 13 nieces and nephews, Cecelia "Mya", Elijah, Jonathan, Jasmine, Aiyannia, D'Andre, Dante, Briany, Quincy, Jr., Tristan, Zymarion, Zaire, and Amya; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, great-nieces & nephews, and friends. He was predeceased by his grandparents, Roland and Emma Bridges, and Willie Lee and Jessie Mae Iverson; his stepmother, Annie Bell Iverson; his uncle, Bob Bridges; and his brother-in-law, Michael Henderite who passed just days after Hayes. His family will receive friends on Saturdáy, Februáry 5, 9-10 a.m., followed by a Homegoing Service at 10 a.m., at The Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Rd., Windsor. Burial will follow in Silver Lane Cemetery, East Hartford. Carmon Windsor Funeral Home has care of the arrangements. For online condolences please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Jagoda, Janet (Chase)



Janet Alice Jagoda (Chase) 92, of Cromwell, passed away on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at Autumn Lake Healthcare in Cromwell. Born July 30, 1929 in Middletown, she was the daughter of the Daniel and late (Partridge) Chase. Janet grew up in Portland moving to Middletown when

she married in 1953. As her

family grew she moved to Cromwell where she remained the rest of her life. She was a longtime member of South Congregational Church in Middletown. A wife and mother, her family was always first. As a young mother she was an excellent League bowler with one perfect game. She was an exceptionally avid reader with a keen mind and loved to do crossword puzzles until the end. She enjoyed supporting her children's many activities, especially watching her grandchildren's play sports. She liked to travel making many trips abroad. Janet is survived by her daughters, Nanci Liscinsky and husband David of Glastonbury, and Jami Jagoda-Cooney and her husband William of Cromwell, and her son, Bruce Jagoda and wife of Los Angeles; her grandchil-dren Sean Whalen and his wife Heather of Glastonbury, Alycia Cooney of Cromwell, Dr. Jennifer Liscinsky of Ft. Lauderdale, and 3 great grandchildren, Kayla, Shane and Sydney Whalen. She was predeceased by her husband of 32 years, Edward Jagoda, and beloved brothers

John (Jackie) and Daniel Chase. A service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations in Janet's memory may be made to American Cancer Society, 111 Founders Plaza, Suite 200, E. Hartford, CT 06108. To share memories or send condolences to the family, please visit www.doolittlefuneralservice.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

McCool, Mary Gamba



Mary Gamba McCool, 88 of Terryville, beloved mother, grandmother and grandmother died peacefully on January 31, 2022. Mary was born on January 23, 1934 in Hartford, daughter of the late Virginia and Evasio Gamba. Mary met the love of her life,

Edward (Ed) McCool on a blind date and they were mar-

ried on April 25, 1953 at the Church of St Augustine's in Hartford. Soon after they married they moved to Southington and eventually settled in Forestville where they raised their eight children. At the age of 40 Mary returned to SNET, where she worked before meeting Ed and spent 25 years there as a telephone operator. Following her retirement Mary and Ed moved to Terryville to be near her son Michael who was recently widowed and helped him raise his three children. In addition to raising her family and working she enjoyed the beach, some of her favorites being York Beach, Maine and Charlestown, RI and gardening. She was often found on a weekend morning out tending her beautiful flower gardens.

Mary's greatest joy was her family. She leaves an amazing legacy and is survived by her children Steven McCool and his wife Vicki of Colorado, Cheryl Sabetta and her husband Eric of East Haddam, Keith McCool and his wife Cindy of Terryville, Lynn Veronise and her husband Tom of Forestville, Paul McCool and his wife MaryAnn of Southington and James McCool and his wife Stacy of Florida. She is also survived by 18 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. She was prede-ceased by her husband Ed, her sons Michael McCool and Edward McCool Jr, her grandson Kevin McCool and her beloved daughter-in-law Emilia McCool.

Calling hours are Saturday, February 5 from 9:00-11:00am at Scott Funeral Home, 169 Main St, Terryville followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00am at Immaculate Conception Church. Burial will be in St Mary Cemetery, Terryville. www.scottfuneralhomeinc. com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Stories live on. Tell theirs.

Hartford Courant Legacy.com



Bowler, Paul H.



Paul H. Bowler, 68, of Glastonbury passed away unexpectedly on Monday, January 31, 2022 at Hartford Hospital after a brief hospitalization. He was the beloved husband of Debra (LaRocque) Bowler for 45 years. Born in New Haven, Paul was the son of the George Howard and Rosemary (O'Donnell) Bowler. He spent his younger years in

New Haven, and resided in Glastonbury for over forty years. He attended Hopkins Day School in New Haven, graduating in 1971, followed by Assumption University in Worchester, MA where he met his wife and both graduated in 1975. Paul was president of his senior class at Assumption. He was on the hockey team and also played on the first lacrosse team at the University. Paul was the owner of T-Shirts Etc. in Glastonbury for many years and loved the community around him and doing everything to help his employees and customers. He is a former member of the Glastonbury Volunteer Fire Department and the Glastonbury Rotary Club. He coached his boys in Glastonbury youth little league, football, basketball and lacrosse. In addition to his wife, Paul is survived by his two sons and daughters-in-law, Ryan and Kelsey Bowler of East Hampton, Ct., Kyle and MaryBeth Bowler of Berlin, Ct., his two grandchil-dren Olivia and Aiden Bowler and he was looking forward to welcoming another grandson in March. Paul loved nothing more than spending an afternoon on the deck by the pool or on the boat with his family. He also leaves behind his brother and sister-in-law Greg and Judy LaRocque and nieces and nephews, Michelle and Jeffery LaRocque and Lindsey Randolph and cousin's Suzanne McGee, nephew Corie McGee and David O'Connor and their family. Paul had many friends, those most cherished were Tom Peckingham, Bruce Motowidlak, Bob Fagan, Mike Mahoney and Chris Erali. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 11:00 am at Ss. Isidore and María Parish at St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury. Burial will be held at Green Cemetery on Hubbard St in Glastonbury immediately following the Mass. Friends may call on Sunday, February 6, 2022 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to an educational fund for Paul's grandchildren c/o Liberty Bank 64 Oak Sreet Glastonbury, Ct 06033. Attn. Paul Bowler Grandchildren. For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com.

MULRYAN

FUNERAL HOME

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

McGinley, Sr., Gerald J.

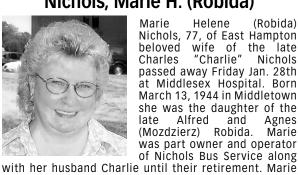


Gerald J. McGinley Sr., 81, beloved husband of Judith McGinley (Pease) passed peacefully surrounded by family on January 30, 2022. Jerry was born in Providence, RI, son of the late James and Ann (McDermott) McGinley. He spent most of his school years in Cromwell and although he graduated from East Hartford, his heart

was always in Cromwell. He was a long-time resident of Portland and member of St. Mary's Parish. He and his wife had enjoyed many years of retirement together. Besides his wife, he leaves behind 4 children, Lori McGinley of Franklin, NH, Amanda (& William) McDonald of Hillsborough, NH, Gerald (& Lisa) McGinley Jr. of Portland, and Corinne McGinley of Portland. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren who thought the world revolved around him, 11 great grandchildren whom he adored and doted on, a sister Barbara (& William) Watson of East Hartland, a brother, Richard (& Barbara) McGinley of Portland and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by two sisters, Patricia Cavallo and Jean Barry, and a brother Michael McGinley. He was much loved by his family and many friends. He had the Irish gift of gab and was a spinner of tales, usually the life of any party he attended. He was a favorite customer at Eggs Up Grill and Rise and Shine Cafe where he always left with goodies for his muchadored pets, whom he treated like royalty. Family and friends may call at Riggs Euneral home. 3 Silver St. friends may call at Biega Funeral home, 3 Silver St., Middletown on Monday, February 7th from 5 to 7 p.m. The funeral Liturgy will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, February 8th at St. Mary's Church, 51 Freestone Ave., Portland. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Mary Church. To share memories or express condolences online please visit www.biegafuneralhome.com

Nichols, Marie H. (Robida)

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries



(Robida) Marie Helene Nichols, 77, of East Hampton beloved wife of the late Charles "Charlie" Nichols passed away Friday Jan. 28th at Middlesex Hospital. Born March 13, 1944 in Middletown she was the daughter of the late Alfred and Agnes (Mozdzierz) Robida. Marie was part owner and operator of Nichols Bus Service along

was known for her kindness and compassion, never hesitating to go out of her way for those that she loved. She took pride in her family and loved spending time with them, especially when she could cook her famous recipes for them and enjoy lake days all together. She had a love for Christmas, where she was known for turning her home into a magical winter wonderland with incredible decorations and food. Marie had a talent for gardening and loved doing so, especially at her home on Lake Pocotopaug. She absolutely adored her dog, Aaron, who she did everything with. Her love for animals resulted in many dogs, cats, and caring for the hummingbirds that would come visit her porch everyday. Marie will be remembered for her generosity and kind-hearted spirit and will be greatly missed by everyone whose lives she touched. Marie is survived by her son Courtland Rogers of FL, her daughter Corinne Farren and husband Walter of East Hampton, three brothers William Robida of Moodus, Ted Robida of Moodus, Joseph Robida of Ohio, two sisters Arlene Johnson of East Hampton, Joanie Wind of ME, her six grandchildren Jeremy Rogers, Korey Rogers, Tarryne Rogers, Jaimie Farren, Patrick Farren and Kiley Farren, her three great grandchildren Isabella, Madison and Kaden, many nieces and nephews, and great nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son Francis Rogers and daughter Jacqueline Rogers, whom she loved dearly, and brothers Robert Robida and Alfred Robida. Funeral services will be held Saturday February 12 th at 11:00am at St. Bridget Church in Moodus. The burial will be in the family plot in St. Bridget Cemetery at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Wounded Warrior Project at https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/ donate Protectors of Animals 144 Main St. East Hartford, CT 06118, or to Ray of Light Farm Inc. 232 Town St. East Haddam, CT 06423. To leave online con-

www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

isit the obituary section on courant.com to share memories of loved ones.

Bellmore, Patricia J.



Patricia (Tricia) J. Bellmore, 71, of West Suffield passed away Saturday, January 29, 2022 after a short battle with cancer. Born June 18, 1950, daughter of the late George W. and Anna T. (Keane) Bellmore, she was a lifelong resident of West Suffield. Tricia graduated from Suffield High School in 1968 as a mem-

ber of the National Honor Society. She received an Associate of Science Degree from Manchester Community College after high school. Soon thereafter she began her 45-year career at St. Francis Hospital advancing to Office Manager for several heads of the OB/GYN department. While working full time, she was proud of receiving her Associate of Science in Business Administration from the University of Hartford. She retired in 2014

Tricia was a shy and a woman of few words. In her early adult life, she enjoyed traveling including trips to the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville and a vacation to Amish Country. She loved spending time at home with her family, doing crossword puzzles, watching UConn women's basketball, game shows and Hallmark movies. Always one to listen and provide small but insightful pieces of advice, she will be missed dearly by all her

Tricia leaves behind her brother George Bellmore Jr, and his wife Adele, and her brother Thomas Bellmore both of West Suffield, her brother-in-law's Bernard Hoyland of Marlborough, and Ron Ostrowski of Suffield, along with her niece and nephews. Tricia is predeceased by her sisters Carolyn Hoyland and Kathy Ostrowski.

The family would like to thank Tricia's care team at Parkway Pavilion during her stay there and her oncol-

ogy team from St Francis.
Her family will receive friends on Monday, February
7, 2022 from 11 AM - 12 PM at Nicholson & Carmon
Funeral Home, 443 East St. N. (Rt. 159), Suffield, followed by funeral services at 12:00 PM at the funeral home. Burial will be in West Suffield Cemetery in the spring. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Suffield Community Aid, 450 South St, Suffield, CT 06078. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Dwyer, Susan F.

Susan F. Dwyer, 76, died January 10, 2022, predeceased by her husband Michael E. Dwyer on October 24, 2021. Susan was a caring wildlife rehabilitator and ran Safe Haven Wildlife Rehabilitation Center for several years. She will be missed. There will be no services.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Grossi, Carol A.



Carol A. Grossi, 75, a beloved wife, loving mom and adoring grandmother, passed away in her sleep on February 1, 2022 after a long battle with cancer. Born on January 31, 1947, daughter of the late Richard & Anna Grise, Carol grew up in Farmington, married her high school sweetheart Michael, and had celebrated

54 years together. Carol held her family first and foremost in her life and stayed home raising her two sons. Although her boys eventually grew taller than her, Carol had her "heat for the seat" and soup spoon ready to go when needed along with open ears and arms. When her sons grew older Carol returned to school working first as a registered nurse at Hartford Hospital and then found her calling working in the nursing homes. She worked her way up to being Director of Nursing but continued enjoying her patient interaction the most. Carol stayed in this position until her family needed her dedication and care more. She loved her family, including all her four legged ones, Maine, reading, sitcoms, sarcasm, Skittles/chocolate and a glass of wine or two. There was never a time in her life that she wasn't caring for someone and we will always be grateful to have shared so many beautiful and fun memories with her.

Leaving to mourn with heavy hearts, she leaves her husband, Michael, children, Mike & Donna Grossi & Stephen & Diane Grossi, her granddaughters, Sydney, Isabella, Angelina and Zoe, her brothers, Richard Grise & his wife Susan, and Robert Grise, her sister, Michele Grise and sister- in- law, Pamela Landry along with extended family and friends. She was predeceased by her in-laws Frank & Bernice Grossi, her younger sister, Susan Emery, and brother- in- law, Robert Landry. Mom, you've taken a piece of our hearts but know that we will always love and cherish you.

Friends may call at The Ahern Funeral Home, 111 Main St., Rt. 4, Unionville on Monday, February 7th, 2022 from 10:30-11:30am followed by a Prayer Service in the Funeral Home at 11:30am. To send online condolences to the family, please visit www.ahernfuneralhome.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

McLaughlin, Barbara (Weatherbee)

Barbara J. (Weatherbee) McLaughlin, 93, passed peacefully on Sunday, January 30, 2022. Barbara was born in Jamaica Plain, MA, on December 19, 1928, the daughter of the late Rev. Howard P. Weatherbee and Greta (Parker) Weatherbee. After graduating from high school, Barbara attended Boston University, earning an Associate's degree in 1948. While at BU, Barbara met the man who would become her husband, Paul McLaughlin; they married in 1949. They had three children together; Laura Donahue of Bend, OR; Patricia Harkins of Coventry, CT; and Matthew McLaughlin of West Hartford, CT, all of whom survive him. In addition to her children, Barbara is survived by a son-in-law and daughter-in-law, and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. While raising their family, Barbara and Paul lived in several places, including Simsbury, before coming to West Hartford. While in her 40's, Barbara decided to continue her education and attended Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, earning Bachelor's and Master's degrees. After graduation, Barbara worked for several social service agencies counselling homeless people and people with substance abuse problems, first in Connecticut and then, after her divorce, in Maine. When she retired, Barbara moved back to Connecticut, living in Willington before settling back in West Hartford. Throughout her life, Barbara had a deep love for animals, both domestic and wild. She often had a dog and a cat at the same time and was completely devoted to them. She was fond of saying, "Dogs are people, too." When she lived in Maine with her longtime companion Murdock Morell, they would walk or drive to places frequented by moose, deer, and birds in order to watch them. Barbara was also an avid reader and music lover, even taking piano lessons into her 80's. A private funeral service will be held on Thursday, February 3. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in her name to the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Road, Newington, CT 06111 (https://cthumane. org/ways-to-give/). Online condolences may be made at www.SheehanHilbornBreen.com

Sheehan Hilborn Breen

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Kenmore, Lydia (Chernowski)

OBITUARIES



Lydia Kenmore passed away peacefully at home sur-rounded by her loving family on Saturday January 29, 2022. She was born in New Britain, CT on April 30,1924, the youngest of six children, to Peter and Helen Chernowski. Lydia had to leave school at a young age to help support her family during the depression. She worked at a slip

factory in New Britain sewing parachutes for the war effort until her marriage to Bob Kenmore. They purchased a home in West Hartford in 1959 and she lived there until her passing. Lydia worked at The Maple Hill Restaurant and The Leather King retail store in West Hartford Center, until her retirement in 1990.

Lydia leaves behind her daughter Robin and son-inlaw Ernie Maggi with whom she resided with for 31 years. She also leaves her four grandchildren, Michael, Mary, Conner and Samantha Maggi, as well as 3 great

Arrangements are private through Rose Hill Cemetery

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Kaminski, Kazimierz



Kazimierz Kaminski, 84, of New Britain, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, peacefully on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 surrounded by his children. He came to the United States on April 11, 1961 and was the beloved husband of the late Jadwiga Kaminski for 52 years until her passing on October, 13, 2021. He was a

on October, 13, 2021. He was a parishioner of Holy Cross Church in New Britain, Polish Falcons of America in Pittsburg PA, Sokolnia Nest #88 in New Britain and Polish National Alliance in Chicago. He worked at Textron (formerly Atlantic Aerospace) in Newington for 38 years. A passionate, hardworking man, he enjoyed providing for his family. He took great pride in caring for his property and could always be found working with his hands. His kind and compassionate heart will be missed by all who knew him. A loving father and grandfather, he is survived by his loving father and grandfather, he is survived by his sons: Krzysztof and his wife Jennifer of West Hartford, Mark and his wife Chalsea and their son Gabriel of New Britain, his daughter: Anna Veilleux of New Britain and her daughters: Sabrina Frank and her husband Kyle of Florida, Cassandra Veilleux, who is serving in the US Navy. He also leaves extended family in Poland. Relatives and friends are invited to call on Friday, February 4th, from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Burritt Hill, 332 Burritt St. New Britain. His funeral service will begin on Saturday, at 9:00 a.m. at Burritt Hill, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 at Holy Cross Church. He will be laid to rest beside his wife in Sacred Heart Cemetery. To share a message of sympathy with his family, please visit us at www.duksa.net.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Locke, Arthur Bailey



Arthur Bailey Locke of West Granby, CT, passed away on Sunday, January 30, 2022, at home surrounded by his family. He was the son of Alice Bailey and William S. Locke. Born in Hartford in 1936, Art moved to West Hartford a few years later where he lived until moving to Bloomfield in 1961.

ing to Bloomfield in 1961. A graduate of Williston Northampton School, Hobart College, and Harvard Law School, Art joined the law firm Murtha, Cullina (then Shephard, Murtha, and Merritt) in Hartford where he practiced law until his retirement in 1992. An outdoorsman at heart, Art enjoyed gardening, splitting wood, building stone walls, and making maple syrup. He liked walking around in the woods, especially after moving to West Granby in 1994 where he could walk in "his" woods.

Art is survived by his wife of 56 years, Aurelle Smoot Locke; three daughters, Alison Perchuk (Andrew) of Santa Monica, CA, Amanda Locke (Jonathan Chesler) of New Milford, CT, and Katharine Locke (Julian Wiggins)

New Milford, CT, and Katharine Locke (Julian Wiggins) of Orono, ME; and his granddaughter, Hazel Bailey

Calling hours will be Sunday, February 6, 1:00 pm at Hayes-Huling & Carmon Funeral Home, 364 Salmon Brook Street, Granby CT. A celebration of his life will follow at 2 pm. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Center for Northern Woodlands Education, PO Box 270, Lyme, NH 03768, or to a charity of the donor's choice. For online condolences or to view the services live or after Sunday, February 6th, at 2 p.m., please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Messineo, Louis



Louis Vincent Messineo, age 93, of Covington, PA, passed away peacefully at home under the care of his loving wife, Ellie, on Monday, January 31, 2022. On November 29, 1928, he was born in Rochester, NY, a son of Angelo and Mary (Fawzon) Messineo. Louis and his wife, Eleanor (Jenneiahn)

years of marriage on November 23, 2021. Louis was a veteran of the United States Army, having served proudly during the Korean War. Louis received his BS/MS degrees from the University of Rochester and his Bh D from the University of Syracuse Over 40 years Ph.D. from the University of Syracuse. Over 40 years, Louis worked in several administrative roles across NY, Louis worked in several administrative roles across NY, NH, and CT. After ten years as Superintendent in Tolland, CT, he retired, being formally recognized at the State level. Louis enjoyed music, golf, tennis, and dancing. He joined Ellie in both square dancing and round dancing for several years. In addition, he loved telling his grandchildren stories and engaging in puzzles. In 2007, Louis and Ellie realized a dream of starting a successful Bed & Breakfast. Over many years, the log cabin, known as Copp Hollow, delighted the family with get-togethers and meeting new people from around the country. Louis is survived by his wife, Eleanor; a son, David (Helene) Messineo of Wellsboro, PA; a stepson, Keith Avery of Tioga, PA; a stepdaughter, Belinda (Tom) Stoto of Portland, CT; ten grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by seven brothers and sisters. Following a private service, a celebration of life will be announced. Buckheit Funeral Chapel and Crematory, Inc. 637 S. Main St. Funeral Chapel and Crematory, Inc. 637 S. Main St. Mansfield, PA is assisting the family. www.buckheitfcandcrematory.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Safford, Jessica (Crescimano)



It is with profound sorrow that we inform you that Jessica, 45, passed on January 28th, 2022. Jessica was born on July 11th, 1976, to Anthony S. and Diane Crescimano, of Middletown, CT. She was equal parts spirit and sass, loving and kind. She leaves behind her devoted husband, Ken Safford, beloved son Michael Greenleaf,

loving Nana, Mary Jane Flood, her grandfather, John Reynolds, Sr. and her furbabies Lulu and Oliver. She will be forever missed by her siblings, Anthony F. (Josie) Crescimano, Alissa (Ernesto) Santiago, Christine (Miguel) Peralta, her cousin, Matthew Piche and her cherished nieces and nephews, Luke, Tony, Lucia, Adonis, Adrian, Godson Apollo, Ariana and Ella, all of Middletown. In addition, she is survived by many aunts, uncles and cousins. She also leaves behind her motherin-law, Marie (Fred) Pettengill and sister-in-law Tonia (Greg) and their son, Casen McClure. While her loss leaves a huge void in all of our lives, it will be filled by fondly remembering how she graciously lived and fiercely loved all of her family and friends. Funeral service will be held Sunday (Feb. 6th) at 4 p.m. at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown. Friends may call at Biega Funeral Home on Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. prior to the service. To share memories or express condolences online please visit www.biegafuneralhome.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Vieth, Orville



Orville Vieth, of Bristol, CT, proudly lived to 104 years young before passing away on January 31, 2022.

He was born in Truesdale

Missouri to the late Robert and Lydia Vieth. Orville was a faithful husband, loving father, he will be missed by his children Tom (Judy) and MaryLynne Boisvert (Steve), and grandchildren, He was

predeceased by his wife Gloria and their son Rob. Orville served in World War Two, and worked for the US Postal Service. His family is eternally grateful for the loving care and support of his Bristol Hospice Nurses. A virtual wake will be held via Zoom on Friday, February 4 from 5-7pm.

Meeting ID: 899 6823 6005 Passcode: 472414 Memorial donations can be made to St. Vincent de Paul Mission, 19 Jacobs St. Bristol, CT 06010 or Bristol Hospice, PO Box 977 Bristol, CT 06011-0977. Please share online expressions of sympathy, memories or photo tributes at www.rosehillfuneralhomes.com



Stories live on. Tell theirs.

Share your loved one's story.

placeanad.courant.com/obituaries

Hartford Courant

••••• media group

In partnership with Legacy.com[®]



Hartford Courant

CONNECTICUT

COURANT.COM/CONNECTICUT

Darien says no to Open Choice

Program would open school district to Norwalk students

By Seamus McAvoy Hartford Courant

The Darien Board of Education voted Tuesday to narrowly reject moving forward with plans to participate in a pilot Open Choice program that would bring 16 Norwalk students to the district, Republican chairperson and a passionate call to action by the superintendent of schools.

The program, designed to bring more diversity and equity to Connecticut's racially segregated schools, has prompted lengthy, intense debate since its inclusion in Superintendent Dr. Alan Addley's proposed budget for the 2022-23 school year.

Under Addley's plan, the highly regarded district likely would have admitted a total of 16 kinder-

lottery, from Norwalk into Darien's four elementary schools this fall. The students would have been mostly Black or Hispanic, to reflect the Norwalk district's minority-majority demographics.

But a slim majority of members on the board, which voted 5-4 against the measure, echoed concerns shared by some Darien residents regarding cost and implementation, and suggested that the community was still reeling from COVID-19 and not ready to take the program on.

"Our administration, staff and most importantly, our kids, are watching tonight," Addley said moments before the vote. "They're watching with hope that our words will match our actions."

"Matters related to finance, space, timing, are all legitimate issues, but they have been addressed. Let's not kick the can down the road," Addley added. "There is nothing that we have heard that should prevent us from moving forward." The majority of

"Fundamentally where I come down is, I don't think this is the year," said Jill McCammon, Darien board vice-chair. "So I won't be voting for it tonight, but I do look forward to future conversations."

Board chair David Dineen, elected as a Republican, joined the board's three Democrats in voting in favor of Open Choice. The board's other five Republican members, including McCammon, voted against.

Turn to Darien, Page 2



EIP LLC plans a data center in the six-story building on the left, and a fuel cell complex for the one to the right of it. Both buildings are part of the old Stanley Black & Decker complex in New Britain. COURANT FILE PHOTO

Promising news for project

Long-delayed \$1B fuel cell, data center in New Britain may start construction this year

By Don Stacom Hartford Courant

The ambitious plan for a \$1 billion energy complex and data center at the old Stanley Works industrial complex in New Britain appears to be back on track after a long hiatus triggered by the pandemic.

EIP LLC has changed financing, brought in a different fuel cell supplier and rewritten the plan for where it will operate its energy production equipment, but plans to begin work on the project this year if regulators sign off.

"I'm still holding my breath for

once that happens all signs point to go," Mayor Erin Stewart said this week.

"It's on the positive path now. I feel confident saying that this is the most promising news we have had in 24 months," she said. More than three years ago, then-

Gov. Dannel Malloy and city business leaders gathered at the old Stanley Works plant on Myrtle Avenue to applaud EIP's massive proposal.

This project represents a new beginning for New Britain," Malloy said in the summer of 2018. 'We're going to have thousands of jobs on this site in the not-too-distant future."

EIP planned to generate almost 20 megawatts using fuel cells from Doosan Fuel Cell Amer-

the next 60 days until those reguica in South Windsor in the first stalled the progress for about two latory approvals go through, but phase, and said subsequent stages would add 44 megawatts. In addition, EIP pledged to renovate the long-vacant, six-story factory on Myrtle — the centerpiece of the old Stanley complex — to use as a data center.

> At the time, political leaders from both parties described the EIP plan as transformative for a rundown neighborhood in one of Connecticut's poorer cities.

In mid-2019 the state put up a \$55 million tax credit to spur the project, and EIP executives spoke of a construction start in 2020. But the pandemic hit, and the hulking brick factory complex has shown

no signs of life since then. EIP and Stewart said the global shutdown in the first months of the pandemic followed by international supply chain disruptions

years.

But by last spring, EIP said it had lined up new investors and replaced Doosan with California-based Bloom Energy as its fuel cell supplier. And it reconfigured its design: Instead of renovating two old Stanley buildings behind the main six-story factory, it will raze them and store the fuel cells outdoors on a 4-foot-high, 48,000-square-foot platform.

The company told the Connecticut Siting Council in October that this stage of the 10-year project will cost \$75 million to \$80 million. Future stages would expand the fuel cell farm, renovate the six-story building as a massive data center and construct new offices across Curtis Street.

Turn to Project, Page 2

WEST HARTFORD In a split vote, board retires team

By Don Stacom Hartford Courant

names

Despite a last-ditch plea by some parents and student athletes, West Hartford's school board decided Tuesday night that 2022 is the end of the line for the Chieftains and Warriors as the names of the high schools' teams.

The move is the latest part of a more than seven-year campaign to separate West Hartford schools from the team names and mascots including headdresses and feathers

-that originated many decades ago. Advocates for scrapping the names as culturally insensitive said the decision would promote inclusiveness in town.

But several parents who wanted to keep the names criticized the board for pushing through its decision without enough community

Board member Ethan Goldman, who narrowly lost a bid to push off the vote for a month, cautioned that a hurried decision would not

"Speakers said they thought it would bring the community together. If we appear to be rushing this, I don't think that's good for the town," Goldman said.

West Hartford becomes the latest in a series of Connecticut school systems to jettison sports teams' names or mascots deemed offensive to Native Americans.

The decision followed two hours of public comment and board debate, mirroring the arguments that have arisen in towns from Glastonbury to Watertown.

Some residents insisted social-justice demands ending the use of names that originated decades ago in a less culturally sensitive era, while others argued that long-established community pride and alumni unity would be

Turn to Names, Page 2

Prosecutors close book on a case of murder in a cult

By Edmund H. Mahony Hartford Courant

State prosecutors have closed the books on the strange, 17-yearold murder of the self-described chief apostle to Brother Julius Schacknow, a Connecticut cult leader who turned his claim to divinity into a multimillion-dollar business and real estate empire in the 1970s and '80s.

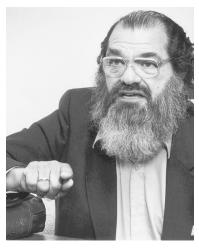
New Britain State's Attorney Brian W. Preleski dismissed murder charges against 77-year old accused killer Rudy Hannon,

who died last month in prison after contracting COVID-19 while awaiting trial. Last week, Hannon's co-defendant in the murder case, Sorek Minery, 45, was sentenced to 20 years in prison suspended after nine years.

The two men were accused of beating to death, freezing, dismembering and burying Paul Sweetman, who was second in command of the religious cult known as "The Work," founded by the charismatic Schacknow,

• Advertising • Knives • Marbles • Doorstops • Signs • etc.

Turn to Cult, Page 2



Brother Julius, aka Julius Schacknow, cult leader who proclaimed to be God, died in 1996 at age 71. FILE

State treasurer to make it easier to reclaim property

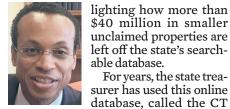
By Andrew Brown Ctmirror.org

HARTFORD - The Connecticut Treasurer's office is making it easier for people to find and reclaim millions of dollars in uncashed checks, aban- Wooden doned security deposits,

forgotten insurance policies and other financial assets that are swept up by the state government.

The move comes one month after the CT Mirror published an investigative story high-

Call Jim Salisbury 1-800-991-9052



For years, the state treasurer has used this online database, called the CT Big List, to publicize those so-called unclaimed prop-

erties and to inform businesses, nonprofits, local governments and Connecticut residents how to regain possession of their money.

Turn to Reclaim, Page 3



Feds: Norwich man trafficked fentanyl analogues on dark web

Staff report

A Norwich man was sentenced to more than 14 years in prison for trafficking fentanyl analogues on the dark web and firearm offenses, according to federal authorities.

Barry Duclos, 43, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Victor A. Bolden in Bridgeport to a total of 170 months in prison, to be followed by three years of supervised release, federal authorities said in a statement.

Federal authorities, citing evidence introduced during his trial, said that, between about September 2017 and February 2018, Duclos operated a vendor page on the dark web "Dream Market," and using the alias 1NOLEFB1, advertised the sale of fentanyl analogues there. He then

used the U.S. Mail to ship fentanyl analogues to customers who paid for the drugs using Bitcoin, federal authorities said in the statement.

On Sept. 21, 2017, a 39-year-old man in Tennessee fatally overdosed after using cyclopropyl fentanyl he ordered from Duclos, federal authorities said in the statement.

Duclos was arrested on a federal criminal complaint on Feb. 12, 2018 and a search of his home at that time revealed a YHM rifle with multiple magazines, two of which were extended magazines, federal authorities said in the statement. Investigators also located and seized fentanyl and carfentanil from the residence, along with a computer used by Duclos to access Dream Market, federal authorities said.

Duclos was convicted in state court, in February 2001, of sale of narcotics and, in March 2017, of third-degree larceny and it is a violation of federal law for a person previously convicted of a felony offense to possess a firearm or ammunition that has moved in interstate or foreign commerce. federal authorities said in the statement.

A jury found Duclos guilty on July 30, 2021 of seven counts of possession with intent to distribute and distribution of fentanyl analogues; one count of possession with intent to distribute fentanyl and carfentanil; one count of possession of ammunition by a convicted felon; and one count possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

Duclos has been detained since his arrest

Uncasville woman gets prison for tax evasion

Staff report

HARTFORD — An Uncasville woman was sentenced to prison for tax evasion, according to federal authorities.

Kathryn Pocock, 59, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Jeffrey A. Meyer in New Haven to 12 months and one day in prison, followed by one year of supervised release, according to federal authorities.

Pocock has operated Sunshine Cleaners, LLC, a home cleaning business, since 1991 and between 2015 and 2019, she withdrew about \$855,000 from the business and failed to report those proceeds on the relevant tax forms for the business and on her federal income tax returns, federal authorities said in a release, citing court documents and statements made in court.

"The investigation revealed that Pocock regularly cashed numerous client checks that had been paid to her business, deposited some checks into her personal bank account, and paid her employees 'under the table,' "federal authorities said in a release."

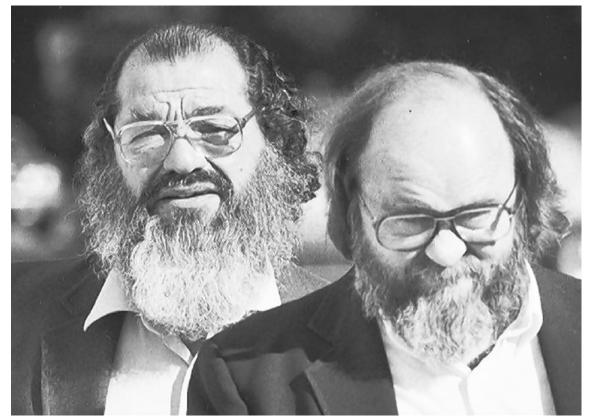
"Pocock wrote checks payable to cash from her personal and business bank accounts, and paid employees in cash without properly collecting and paying over employment tax to the IRS or sales and use

taxes owed to the State of Connecticut," federal authorities said.

Federal authorities also said the investigation revealed Pocock "provided her tax preparer with false spreadsheets and supporting documentation that significantly understated her income and employee-related expenses."

Pocock's actions resulted in a tax loss of \$213,965, including unreported taxes of \$180,451 owed to the IRS and \$33,514 owed to the state of Connecticut and the judge ordered her to pay full restitution, authorities said in the release.

Pocock pleaded guilty to the offense Sept. 15, 2021, authorities said.



Brother Julius Schacknow, left, walks with Paul Sweetman, one of Schacknow's apostles and closest aides, in 1987. FILE

Cult

from Page 1

who died in 1996 at age 71. Preleski has said in court that Hannon and Minery, who turned on one another after their arrests, each accusing the other, committed the crime at a time when there was a struggle among cult leaders for control after Schacknow's death.

Schacknow was a slightly built man, who had piercing green eyes, wore a full beard and liked to appear in a white robes. He called himself a "sinful messiah" who, as he explained, had to sin to know what sin was like. He was accused of having a voracious sexual appetite and of grooming girls and young women in the cult for sex. Over time, his explanation of himself moved from prophet to Jesus Christ incarnate to God.

While Schacknow was proclaiming divinity in the late 1970s, his Meriden-based cult was generating as much as \$100 million in income, primarily through real estate and construction businesses that included the then most profitable Century 21 real estate franchise on the east coast and now defunct County Wide Construction. At his peak, Schacknow's followers, numbered about 300 and many worked for the busi-

nesses, investigators said.

According to information presented in court, the events leading to Sweetman's murder began in a dispute between he and his wife, Joanne Sweetman, for control of the cult and its income after Schacknow's death. Joanne Sweetman, in addition to being a top cult leader known as the "holy spirit," was a top officer in its real estate business and one of Schacknow's former wives.

Joanne Sweetman allegedly wanted Paul Sweetmen dead so she could control the businesses, according to court filings and other material presented in court.

"Mrs. Sweetman enlisted co-defendant Rudy Hannon, who is the biological son of Brother Julius, to eliminate Paul Sweetman," Preleski has said in court. "That was in large part motivated by profit."

Joanne Sweetman died in 2011 before she could be charged, he

Hannon recruited Minery, who eventually confessed after agreeing in a deal with prosecutors to testify against Hannon, Preleski said.

Minery told the police, according to an arrest warrant, that Hannon spent months persuading him that Paul Sweetman "needed to be killed because he was hurting his wife, Joanne Sweetman, and that God would have wanted

them to kill [Paul] Sweetman."

Paul Sweetman, then 70, was beaten to death in 2004, inside Blue Ridge Construction, Minery's Plainville-based business. Police say Hannon and Minery were both involved in the death, but each pointed at the other in statements to New Britain detectives.

The case was dormant until 2016, when New Britain detectives were able to link a human thigh found by a dog 12 years earlier to Sweetman, who vanished and had by then been reported missing.

New Britain detectives arrested Hannon and Minery in 2018.

Minery told police he and Hannon stuffed Sweetman into freezer in his shop. He said he returned to the shop three or four days later and dismembered the body with an electric saw. He said he buried the head and legs in a shallow grave on land near the New Britain reservoir, and buried the torso and arms beneath a shed

at his New Britain home.

Hannon, who was scheduled for trial when he died, gave police a slightly different story. He said he watched Minery beat Sweetman brutally, but helped stuff the body in the freezer. He claimed he believed Sweetman was still alive and Minery allegedly put something heavy on top of the freezer to keep Sweetman inside.

Project

from Page

EIP is asking the siting council and public utilities regulatory authority to extend its permits, which had anticipated 2020 construction. Because of the delay, EIP doesn't expect to begin bringing in fuel cells until late this year.

The company told regulators this winter that it envisions the first phase of the fuel cell project

would be operated by mid-2023. It will use 73 fuel cells, each roughly 30 feet long, 4 feet wide and 7 feet high.

The Siting Council will issue a decision by March 8, and Stewart anticipates that the utilities regulatory authority will follow fairly soon after that.

"This is a story of the impact COVID had on these kind of developments. When the pandemic started, we were constantly calling the owners to ask where things were — then it got to the point where everything was on hold, the world just stopped," Stewart said. "Then it got scary for a little bit because this is such a huge project and it was really in limbo."

In the six-story former factory, EIP plans banks of servers to process and store data for businesses. The company will market the facility's reliability because the fuel cell complex next door will provide backup for cooling, heating and electrical systems.

Darien

from Page 1

The debate that has unfolded in Darien could shed light on discussions imminent in the suburban communities around Hartford, which may soon weigh whether to bring more students from Hartford into their school districts.

A Hartford Superior Court judge granted preliminary approval last Thursday to a sweeping agreement to settle 30 years of litigation in the Sheff v. O'Neill Case. If finalized, Connecticut will pledge to create as many as 2,737 Choice seats by 2028-29 — or however many it takes to meet 100% of demand — or potentially face another lawsuit.

The state plans to meet demand in part by increasing the financial incentives for suburban schools to admit as many as 450 more Hartford students through Open Choice.

According to the Capitol Region Education Council, 2,170 students from Hartford attended schools outside the city this year through Open Choice. Nearly 900 more wanted to, but couldn't because there weren't enough seats, according to Martha Stone of the Center for Children's Advocacy and plaintiffs' attorney in the Sheff case.

During the public comment period of Tuesday's board meeting, several Darien residents said that, while they support diversity, they feel participation in Open Choice would have a detrimental impact on the affluent, mostly white community.

Some expressed worry over the program's expense, offering alarming projections of snowballing marginal costs.

Others shared concerns centered on school capacity, particularly as wealthy families fled New York City during the pandemic for Connecticut's shoreline communities, and with a handful of local residential projects imminent.

Addley and Open Choice officials paint a different picture in presentations and testimony to the board.

Darien schools project stable enrollment over the next five years, according to Addley's proposed budget document. Enrollment at Middlesex Middle School is projected to decrease by 23 students next school year.

As a first time Open Choice participant, Darien would have received \$4,000 from the state for every student admitted. The grant would have changed to \$3,000 per student in subsequent years.

According to Addley, that would have resulted in a positive balance of more than \$260,000 for Darien schools by the time the 16 kindergartners matriculate into middle school.

Eric Nyquist, who coordi-

nates Open Choice for Cooperative Educational Services, told board members last week that he doesn't know of any district that has cited financial concerns with operating the program.

"If [a district is] spending inordinate amounts of money on a program that is not supposed to cost them a lot, they wouldn't still be involved," Nyquist said.

Dineen, board chair, suggested before the vote that moving forward with Open Choice could be a way to "change the conversation" about how the town is perceived throughout the rest of the state, and would send a positive message to legislators as the town seeks funding for school renovations.

"We do need to lead, as a high-funded, high-performing district," Dineen, who voted for Open Choice, said Tuesday. "It's important. ... We are looked at as a leader."

Open Choice has been around for decades, starting in Hartford as Project Concern in 1966 and evolving in 2003 as the state adopted it as a strategy to address the racial segregation outlined in the 1996 Sheff v. O'Neill case.

And the program is active close to Darien, with six suburban districts currently educating 296 students from Bridgeport.

"The fact that this existed 40 years ago, but is being contested now in Darien gives me pause," one Darien resident said Tuesday, also voicing her support for Open Choice.

One group of parents formed "Open Choice Wrong Choice," which describes itself as an "independent group of Darien parents in favor of diversity and opportunity" who "believe there are better choices than this for our schools and community."

On its website, the group touts the quality of Darien schools — consistently ranked among the state's best — as a driving factor behind people moving to the town, and of real estate values.

The group's Facebook posts caught the attention of state Senate Majority Leader Bob Duff, a Democrat representing Norwalk and Darien.

"While I'm certain this does not represent the thoughts of the entire Darien community, it is concerning this group thinks Norwalk's kids are second class," Duff wrote on Facebook.

Open Choice has been a tough sell in some communities despite its benefits, Robert Rader executive director of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, told The Courant.

"But to me, these are all our kids," Rader said. "If we can help kids get a better education, that's what we should be focused on."

"It's a great program, not only for the kids who take advantage of it and come to a suburban school, but it's great for the suburban kids to go to school with more diversity," he said.

Names

from Page 1

undermined by doing away with

"Keeping the current names will perpetuate the racism and abuse that our equity policy was designed to eliminate," said board member Ari Steinberg.

Claybar Drive resident Scott Zweig argued that Warriors is not a name intrinsically connected to Native Americans.

"I'm a proud Hall Warrior, Class of 2001," Zweig said. "Seven other schools in the state have that name, and they haven't changed it."

Zweig also pointed out that West Hartford has more than a dozen streets with names like Seneca Road, Mohegan Drive, Mohawk Drive and Iroquois Road.

West Hartford in 2015 jettisoned all Native American imagery from its school sports logos and signs, but agreed to keep the Warriors and Chieftains names.

Thomson Road homeowner Judy Kelly, who didn't approve of that compromise at the time, said West Hartford should complete the change now.

"These names continue to conjure up stereotypes which harm everyone," Kelly said.

Chris Corcoran of Brian Road agreed, dismissing arguments that the names are the source of pride and success for West Hartford student athletes.

"If they're Conard Cardinals, I think they'll still fight as hard to win," he said.

Wearing a red sweatshirt marked "Conard girls soccer," Mary Fleischli said she was comfortable supporting the team that way — but without the Chieftains reference.

"I would not have bought this merch if it included the nickname — I'm proud of the community, but ashamed of the team name," said Fleischli, mother of a Conard student athlete. "Let's start a new chapter with a new name. I want a school community where everyone feels valued."

Several people said West Hartford should change the names because of a 2021 state law that could terminate some state aid to school districts that keep offensive

One woman who identified herself as a Linwold Drive resident, however, got applause when she called for keeping the names intact.

"Changing them is a pointless waste of time and money," she said, emphasizing that West Hartford would stand to lose no more than \$27,000 if the state penalized

That "is not a substantial amount considering the size of the overall budget," she said, adding that school administrators have not provided cost estimates for replacing all team uniforms, rebranding signs or designing new logos.

Several residents said the new law wouldn't apply to West Hartford because the words have definitions beyond Native American context. Ryan Zydanowicz, who plays

Ryan Zydanowicz, who plays on Hall's football team, said a change would undermine tradition, calling the Warriors name "a sentimental value from past generations."

But the board concluded Tuesday that Conard and Hall will each establish committees of administrators, teachers, students, staff and parents to come up with new names this spring, and to begin phasing out old uniforms, signs, souvenirs and similar items with the start of the 2022-23 school year.

The vote was 5-2 to drop the Chieftains name. Vice Chair Deb Polun was part of the majority in that vote, but voted against changing the Warriors name because she said it did not have the same connection to Native American culture. The vote to change the Warriors name was 4-3.

Student representatives from both high schools said their informal polls showed more than 60% of their classmates wanted to keep the names unchanged.

CONNECTICUT

CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Hospitalized down over 1,000 over three weeks

By Eliza Fawcett Hartford Courant

Connecticut's number of COVID-19 hospitalizations has shrunk by more than 1,000 patients in the past three weeks, with the state's weekly test positivity rate reflecting similar declines.

On Wednesday, the state reported its fewest number of hospitalizations since late December. Meanwhile, the state's weekly COVID-19 test positivity rate dipped below 9% for the first time in more than five weeks.

While the state's COVID-19 metrics have fallen sharply recently, Dr. David Banach, an epidemiologist at UConn Health, said that it is somewhat hard to predict how the trajectory of hospitalizations will continue to evolve.

"We're at a point where people who are hospitalized, some of them may have very prolonged hospitalizations, either from the direct effect of COVID or COVID-related complications, so there may be a slower decline," he said Wednesday.

Cases, positivity rate

Connecticut on Wednesday reported 1,786 new COVID-19 cases out of 24,024 tests administered, for a daily positivity rate of 7.43%. The state's seven-day positivity rate now stands at 8.47%, the lowest it has been since Dec. 26.

But all eight Connecticut counties — with nearly the rest of the country — are still recording "high" levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With this level of transmission, the CDC advises people to wear a mask in public indoor settings.

Hospitalizations

As of Wednesday, Connecticut had 935 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, a reduction of 60 patients since Tuesday and the lowest the metric has been since Dec. 27.

Hospital officials say some patients hospitalized with COVID-19 were admitted for non-coronavirus reasons before testing positive upon arrival but that a majority have significant COVID-19 symptoms.

According to the state, 53.6% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 are unvaccinated. Hospital officials say the rate is significantly higher when considering only patients with severe symptoms.

Deaths

Connecticut typically reports COVID-19 deaths on Thursdays. Last week, the state reported 225 deaths, bringing its total during the pandemic to 9,908. By Tuesday, an additional 168 deaths had been recorded, for a total of 10,076.

COVID-19 deaths — which typically tend to lag other metrics by several weeks have continued to increase in recent weeks even as cases and hospitalizations have slowed. Unvaccinated people in Connecticut have been about 14 times as likely to die from COVID-19 in recent weeks as those who are vaccinated, according to state numbers.

The United States has now recorded 892,001 COVID-19 deaths, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

Vaccinations

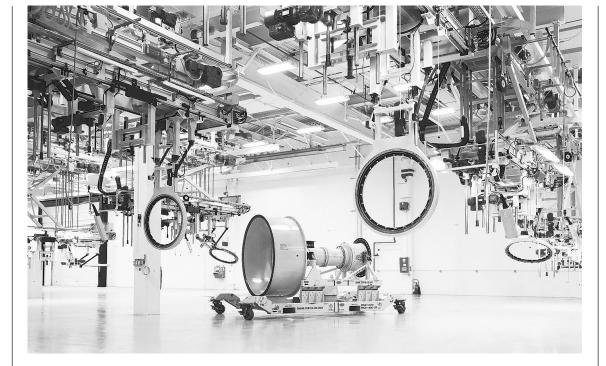
As of Wednesday, 92.6% of all Connecticut residents and 95% of those 5 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 76.6% of all residents and 80.7% of those 5 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the

Additionally, about 51% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents 18 or older have

received a booster dose.

The CDC warns that booster shots are sometimes misclassified as first doses, likely inflating the reported number of first-dose coverage and understating the true number of people who have received boosters.

Eliza Fawcett can be reached at elfawcett@courant.com.



Pratt & Whitney's jet engine assembly line at its Middletown plant. COURANT FILE PHOTO

Third lawsuit targets aerospace industry

By Stephen Singer Hartford Courant

A federal indictment in December of former aerospace workers charged with suppressing wages and blocking hiring has led to a third lawsuit against aerospace companies, with lawyers seeking more clients to broaden class-action complaints.

A lawsuit filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Hartford alleges jet engine manufacturer Pratt & Whitney, the East Hartford subsidiary of Raytheon Technologies Corp., agreed to hiring freezes from certain aerospace suppliers. According to a former recruiter for Belcan, a Cincinnati engineering firm, Pratt & Whitney agreed to not hire until employees completed a time limited contract and a six-month moratorium, the lawsuit claims.

If Pratt & Whitney wanted to hire a Belcan contract employee before the end of that moratorium, it had to pay Belcan a fee, the lawsuit claims. Details were set in a so-called master terms agreement, according to the lawsuit filed by Hagens Berman, a Seattle law firm on behalf of five clients.

A spokesman for Pratt & Whitney declined to comment and Belcan did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The lawsuit also accuses Pratt & Whitney of a "verbal no-hire agreement" with Agilis Engineering Inc. that prohibited both parties from hiring each other's employees, according to a former manager at the Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, company.

Agilis did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

"The conspiracy was intended to suppress compensation throughout the market by limiting hiring and solicitation of engineers and other skilled workers in the aerospace industry," the lawsuit alleges.

As a result, wages, salaries and benefits since at least 2011 were lower than they would have otherwise been, the lawsuit

A federal grand jury in mid-December indicted five aerospace executives and a former manager on charges of conspiring to limit workers' professional advancement and compensation, the U.S. Department of Justice announced.

The Bridgeport grand jury

accused the six men of participating in a "long-running conspiracy to restrict the hiring and recruiting of employees among their respective companies." The indictments did not identify the companies for whom the defendants worked.

engineers.

À similar lawsuit in U.S. District Court in December alleged Pratt & Whitney took part in a so-called

alleged.

Two civil lawsuits were later filed. A legal challenge accused Collins Aerospace, a Raytheon Technologies subsidiary, of participating in a no-hire agreement that allegedly hobbled career and pay opportunities for

manufacturer or other skilled worker at a major aerospace company since 2011. Wages were likely lower due to a "massive wage-fixing agreement" between the biggest aerospace companies in the nation, Hagens Berman

no-poach arrangement. Lawyers are soliciting potential clients, asking if any had worked as an engineer, engine designer,

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

CONNECTICUT WEATHER FORECAST

Rain, snow and sleet on the way

By Christine Dempsey Hartford Courant

Say goodbye to the light, fluffy snow. Rain will soak it on Thursday, after which Connecticut will get a mixed bag of snow, sleet and ice, just in time for the Friday morning rush.

When will the rain

The rain will arrive in the Hartford area by Thursday afternoon, Joe Dellicarpini, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service, said Wednes-

When will it turn to snow and sleet?

The Hartford area will see a transition to sleet, and "little balls of ice," or ice pellets, between 7 and 9 a.m. Friday, Dellicarpini said. A winter storm watch has been issued for Massachusetts, but not for Connecticut.

It's hard to predict the order in which the slop will drop, fellow meteorologist Bill Simpson said Wednesday afternoon.

Slop?

"The catch phrase we like to use is a 'wintry mix," Simpson

How will that affect the Hartford area?

"The main impact in Hartford is just going to be slippery travel," Dellicarpini said. "It's more of like a nuisance for the morning rush hour on Friday."

How cold will it be?

The temperature on Wednesday was well into the 40s. It is expected to reach the mid-40s Thursday in the Hartford area before dropping as low as the upper 20s overnight, the NWS

cdempsey@courant.com.

Three days and three shootings in Hartford

Police say 12 have survived being shot in city so far in 2022

By Christine Dempsey Hartford Courant

A man was shot in Hartford Tuesday evening, police said — the third shooting in the capital city since Sunday. He is the 12th person to survive being shot this year.

Two shootings in the last week involved teen victims; in all, three teens have been victims of nonfatal shootings in 2022, Lt. Aaron Boisvert said Wednesday. He said police do not believe the teen shootings are connected.

The most recent shooting happened about 6:15 p.m. Tuesday. Officers responded to the 500 block of Albany Avenue after learning of a ShotSpotter alert. They found a man in his 20s suffering from gunshot wounds, police said.

The man was taken to the hospital, where he was listed in stable condition. Boisvert said.

Detectives also continue to investigate two shootings from Sunday, one of which police said seriously injured a teenager.

A 16-year-old boy was found near 197 Collins St. in the Asylum Hill neighborhood shortly before 5 p.m. Sunday, police said. He was initially listed in critical condition, but on Monday Boisvert said his condition was changed to "stable." Earlier Sunday, about 3:45 a.m.,

a man in his 30s was taken to the hospital after being shot on Elliott Street in the Barry Square neighborhood, police said. His gunshot wound was not life-threatening.

Police also are investigating a shooting in broad daylight Friday that wounded a 15-year-old boy.

Officers were called to 65 Sumner St., also in the Asylum Hill neighborhood, about 8:40 a.m. They found a teenager suffering from a gunshot wound that he was expected to survive. Police said they don't believe the shooting happened at that address.

The first teen to be shot this year was wounded on Jan. 10. The 16-year-old showed up at Connecticut Children's about 1:10 a.m. with injuries police said were not life-threatening.

Officers didn't know where in the city he had been shot, police said at the time.

The police department's Major Crimes and Crime Scene divisions are investigating all of the shootings. Anyone with information about them is asked to call the department's tip line at 860-722-8477 (TIPS).

In 2021, 163 people survived being shot in Hartford, a significantly lower number than the 225 victims of nonfatal shootings in 2020. The number is higher, though, than the 143 victims in 2019; 143 in 2018 and 134 in 2017, police statistics show.

Police last month announced that they had been awarded a \$500,000 federal grant that they hope will help boost the number of arrests and convictions of the people doing the shooting. The money will allow police to add staff to the department's Shooting Response Team, which focuses only on nonfatal shootings.

Reclaim

from Page 1

But that database didn't include lost cash, misplaced bonds, forgotten savings accounts or other property that was valued below \$50.

A month ago, the CT Mirror published its own searchable database that allowed the public to discover if the treasurer was holding any of their property valued at less than \$50.

As part of several broader reform measures, state Treasurer Shawn Wooden announced that loophole would be closed.

Wooden, a Democrat who was elected to the office in 2018, said his team chose to announce those reforms on Tuesday because it corresponded with national "Unclaimed Property Day," which state treasurers throughout the country celebrate.

The CT Mirror investigation also highlighted how other states, such as Rhode Island and California, have taken more proactive approaches to returning unclaimed properties to their owners, including automatically mailing checks to individuals and local governments.

Staff at the state treasurer's office previously told the CT Mirror that state law prohibits them from publicly listing any of the unclaimed property worth less than \$50 on the website. And they said fixing the loophole would require action by the legislature.

After a recent legal review, however, Wooden said his staff came to the conclusion that his office could close the loophole on their own without any type of legislative intervention. "It's been a longstanding interpre-

tation of the state statutes, prior to me coming into office," Wooden said. "I'm taking a broader view of that."

The treasurer's office also chose to lower some of the barriers that people previously had to clear to regain possession of their money.

The treasurer's office, for instance, announced a policy change that will eliminate the need for people to have their claims notarized. It also intends to "fast track" the processing for any claims worth less than \$2,500. Wooden said those changes

are necessary to modernize the unclaimed property program, which got its start nearly a century

He emphasized that the improvements build upon other reforms he has made since entering office. including a significant website update in 2021 that allowed people to submit claims for unclaimed property online and to monitor those requests on the website.

"I've been making changes to the program since I've come into office," Wooden said.

The changes should allow more people to locate and retrieve their money from the state.

There is plenty of room for improvement.

As part of its investigation, the Mirror showed that the state collected more than \$2.3 billion through the unclaimed program between 2000 and 2021. Yet it returned less than 37% of that amount to its owners. Those statistics captured the

attention of several lawmakers early this year and prompted some of them to start planning for additional reforms to the unclaimed property program.

Sen. Rob Sampson, R-Wolcott, said he's fielded a growing number of complaints from constituents that not all of the unclaimed property was being listed on the CT Big

Sampson, who is a ranking member on the legislature's Government Administration and Elections Committee, said Tuesday he is glad Wooden is taking action to fix the problem without legislative intervention.

"I'm very happy to hear that they're actually going to expand the reporting of the amounts under \$50," he said. "I mean, to me, that was ridiculous. Why wouldn't you do that?"

Still, Sampson said, he is interested in exploring whether there are additional changes that could make the program more efficient.

Sampson said he wrote a letter to his colleagues on the Government Administration and Elections Committee in January asking them to propose legislation regarding the unclaimed property program in the

upcoming session.

Sampson has not spoken with other lawmakers about the specifics of any legislation, he said, but he is leaning toward the creation of a task force or a study committee, which could explore what other states are doing to reform their unclaimed property programs.

One potential change that lawmakers and the treasurer's office could pursue is mailing checks directly to the owners of unclaimed property who can be located using other data maintained by the state, like up-to-date tax information.

Several other states, including Illinois, Louisiana, Delaware, Wisconsin, North Carolina and neighboring Rhode Island, are already doing that successfully.

Last year, the treasurer's office voiced apprehension about any strategy that would automatically issue payments to people, arguing that it might open the program up to fraud. That stance seems to have shifted, however, in recent months.

Wooden told the CT Mirror Tuesday that he is in favor of proactively sending checks to people who can be located and properly identified. But, he said, making that change will require legislative action.

That is something that we do not currently have the ability to do, and that would require a legislative change," he said.

Sampson said he'd support anything that makes it easier and faster for people to regain control of their money.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS! ENJOY A FREE APPLE CIDER DONUT & CUP OF CIDER ON US FOR CUSTOMER APPRECIATION WEEKEND SAT FEB 12 & SUN FEB 13

SUPER SAVINGS SUNDAY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 13 Freshly Baked 10" Apple Pies \$7.95 each **Apple Cider Donuts**

Cheaper by the dozen

Frozen Zuppardi's Pizza

\$2.00 off

We cannot tell a lie... We have the best cherry pie

CHERRY PIE SALE Saturday Feb 19 - Sunday Feb 27 Freshly baked 10" cherry pies \$9.95 each

OPEN ALL WINTER 9-5 DAILY! BAKED FRESH DAILY PIES & DONUTS

Locally made bread - eggs - milk - ice cream - cookies dinner items - and more

SHUTTLE MEADOW FARM 336 Long Southington Hours: 9AM-5PM (860) 229-4240



WATERBURY RD

Sunnymount Farm 2876 Meriden-



PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE OLD SAYBROOK ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Town of Old Saybrook will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, First Floor Conference Room located at 302 Main Street, Old Saybrook and via

Public Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/9 6174417686?pwd=Zk1kWmV2VII3VVV1 TUNtNEZRSEs0QT09

TUNINEZRSESOQT09
Meeting ID: 961 7441 7686
Meeting Passcode: 302302
Teleconference Dial-In: (929) 436-2866 One Tap Mob tel://9294362866,,96174417686# to hear the following:

21/22.13C Heidi S. Pascucci, seeks a variance of Par 10.7.1/10.7.2 (non-conformity enlargement/change); Par 24.5.1 (street line setback/25' required/14.3' proposed); Par 25.5.3 (other line setback/15' required/9.2' proposed); and 24.6.1 (building structure coverage/20% allowed/24.2% proposed) of the Zoning Regulations to permit the construction of Regulations to permit the construction of a 104 s.f. dormer additions, increased building insulation and reconfigured entryway at 33 Hartlands Drive, Map 1/Lot 50, Residence A District, Coastal Area Management Zone

21/22.14C Bridgetax Associates, LLC seeks a variance of Par 10.8.2 & 10.8.3 (non-conforming lot size/12,500 s.f. required/5,393 s.f. proposed); Par 24.5.1 (street line setback/25' required/14.7' to house and 12.5' to deck proposed); and Par 24.5.3 (other line setback/15' required/3.5' to north and 12.6' to south proposed) of the Zoning Regulations to permit the construction of a 1,530 s.f. house and 124 s.f. in decks at 10 Bliss Street, Map 12/ Lot 103, Residence A District, Coastal Area Management Zone, AE 12 Flood Zone.

21/22-15 250 Middlesex Tpke, LLC seeks a variance of Par 10.7.1 & 10.7.2 (non-conformity enlargement/change); Par 34.6.3 (side yard setback/20' required/9' proposed); of the Zoning Regulations to permit the constructions Regulations to permit the constructions of a 36 s.f enclosed entry area and 370 s.f. covered porch to an existing building for proposed conversion into an office/retail building. 250 Middlesex Turnpike, Assessor's Map 52, Lot 94, Gateway Business B-4 District. Applicant: 250 Middlesex Turnpike, LLC. Agent: Attorney Marjorie Shansky

oldsaybrookct.gov/zoning-board-appeals 1/27, 2/3/2022 7131533

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Daniel C. Saraceno (22-00052

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated January 28, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recove

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

Josephine A. Saraceno c/o KENNETH JOSEPH SHEA, ANDERSON REYNOLDS & LYNCH, P.C., ONE LIBERTY SQUARE, SUITE 208, NEW BRITAIN, CT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Marek Kita, AKA Mark Kita

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated January 28, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:

c/o HEATHER LYNN PERBECK, PERBECK LAW, 114 WEST MAIN ST., STE. 101, NEW BRITAIN, CT 06051

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Henry C. Clifford, Late of Essex AKA Henry Charles Clifford, Jr. (22-0041)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 31, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Peter G. Clifford and Henry C. Clifford, III
c/o WILLIAM CAMPBELL HUDSON,
HUDSON KILBY AND MCCAULEY, LLC, 10
BOKUM ROAD, PO. BOX 398, ESSEX, CT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Zdzislaw Kajzer (22-00047)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated January 28, 2022 ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I Meagher Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is: Adam Kajzer, 70 Hall Lane, Berlin, CT



Get A Better Oil Company

Competitive Prices. Budget Plans. Service 24/7/365 94 Years

\$100* **New Customer Bonus**

Call: 860.813.9117



Let Daniels Do It. CT License S1-385517 HOD #19

For new oil customers for home heating. Minimum 500 gallons.





Give the Gift of the Day **They Were Born**

Front page prints from the Hartford Courant celebrating the birthday of someone special.

> **SHOP NOW at** courant.com/birthday or call (866) 545-3534

Hartford Courant







Chuck McGinley with his Nasal Ranger on Aug. 3 in South St. Paul, Minnesota. CAROLINE YANG/THE NEW YORK TIMES

LIFE'S MANY STINKS PUT TO TEST

Minnesota man's smell-measuring device has taken on a powerful role in a movement to recognize odor as a pollutant

By Winston Choi-Schagrin The New York Times

SOUTH ST. PAUL, Minn. - Chuck McGinley, a chemical engineer, stepped out of his car, eyed the smokestack of an animal processing plant rising above the treetops, and inhaled deeply. At first he smelled nothing except the faint, sweet fragrance of the nearby trees.

Suddenly, the wind picked up. "We have an oh-my-God smell!" McGinley exclaimed.

Immediately one of his colleagues pressed a Nasal Ranger to his nose. The 14-inch-long smell-measuring device, which looks like a cross between a radar gun and a bugle, is one of McGinley's most significant

Using terms from one of McGinley's other standard tools, an odor wheel, a chart akin to an artist's color wheel that he has been fine-tuning for decades, the team described the stink. "Sour," one person said. "Decay, with possibly some petroleum," said another.

Then, as quickly as it had arrived, the smell disappeared.

Intuitively, humans know to avoid bad smells. Yet for a half-century, McGinley, 76, has returned again and again to society's stinkiest sites, places very much like this one, in order to measure, describe and demystify

From his unconventional lab in a Minnesota suburb, McGinley and his son Mike have established an outsize influence over the measurement and understanding of odor. They have equipped scientists around the world with tools the elder McGinley invented, advised governments on odor regulations and empowered

communities near smelly places to find a vocabulary for their complaints and a way to measure what their noses are telling them.

In many ways, the growing demand for McGinley's services and instruments signals society's heightened awareness of the power of odor and its potential to make people physically ill or diminish their quality of life. His inventions have taken on a powerful role in a movement to recognize odor as a pollutant, not merely an annoyance, worthy of closer study and perhaps tighter regulation.

"If somebody said, 'I have an odor problem; where should I go?' that would be Chuck and Mike McGinley," said Jacek Koziel, an agricultural engineer who studies odor at Iowa State University. Their methods provide policymakers and researchers with "hard evidence to make the case that odor is real and it affects people's lives," he said.

Of the human senses, smell is perhaps the most elusive yet powerful. In any given moment, it can be a time capsule, jerking us back to a half-forgotten past. Or it can linger, triggering feelings that cannot quite be placed or

described. Intuitively, it provides valuable warnings. A whiff of milk can immediately tell you if it is unsafe to drink. A sniff can tell you if your socks are clean. It has even become a diagnostic tool: Losing one's sense of smell is a possible sign of COVID-19 infection. "Our nose is our early warning that something is not good," McGinley

A smell is, quite simply, a result of chemicals in the air, and the human nose is far better at detecting them than it often gets credit for. Some of the most recognizable and potent

odors, like hydrogen sulfide (think rotten egg), can be sensed at even the tiniest concentrations, like 1 part per billion.

"If you were to map out the distance from New York to Los Angeles, 1 part per billion would account for only a few inches along that route," Koziel of Iowa State said.

Despite having the power to sicken, there are few laws in the United States to regulate odor. It makes up a significant portion of complaints to public agencies, including one-quarter of the complaints to the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Yet there is debate over whether a smell can be inherently dangerous.

"It's one thing to measure emissions, but odor is a sensation. Because it can be experienced so differently by so many people, it puts us in a bind about how we regulate," said Pamela Dalton, a psychologist who studies odor perception at the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. "Any industry has the potential for off-site emissions, even a cookie factory," she added.

However, there is a growing body of medical literature supporting the notion that odor can cause physical health problems. Research shows that people living near malodorous sites can suffer physiological symptoms including headaches, burning eyes and nausea as well as mental health challenges like depression and anxiety.

The decision not to regulate odor at the federal level dates to the 1970s. In a series of surveys, federal agencies found that half of respondents believed odor was a serious problem. But the Environmental Protection Agency ultimately decided that it would leave it to local governments to create odor nuisance laws, akin to

noise ordinances.

Today, around a dozen states regulate odor, and various local governments have set up ordinances. But the system is patchy, and it has left

disputes to be dealt with in the courts. In an example from 2018, a North Carolina jury awarded neighbors of Smithfield Foods \$473.5 million for "obnoxious, recurrent odors" originating from the company's industrial hog farms. (In a statement, Smithfield said it had settled this and other similar cases for an undisclosed amount.)

But not everyone has the time or money to sue. And because smelly industries are often clustered in low-income areas, McGinley said, the problems can disproportionately affect minorities or poorer communi-

For centuries, measuring smells had a reputation akin to alchemy. In a 1914 commencement speech, inventor Alexander Graham Bell explained the importance of measurement to the advancement of science. Sound and light, he said, could be measured. But not smell.

McGinley's idea for his own devices came during a vacation in Hawaii. He saw the Haleakala volcano and had a breakthrough: The conical shape might work well for a smell-measuring tool. His Nasal Ranger, more intuitive than the acrylic boxes with finger holes, requires little more than taking a big sniff and adjusting a dial until you no longer smell it.

'The Nasal Ranger is quantum leaps better than the original Scentometer," said Dalton of the Monell Center. Scientists and startups are now working to develop electronic noses capable of measuring and identifying odors just as an actual nose can. But the technology is not there yet.

More berries, red wine in diet might slow Parkinson's disease, study says

HealthDay News

New research shows red wine might be a powerful weapon against the ravages of Parkinson's disease.

Why? The antioxidants in red wine, and fruit such as berries for that matter, might slow progression of the movement disorder, a new study suggests.

According to researchers, people with Parkinson's who eat three or more servings per week of foods high in antioxidants called

flavonoids may reduce their odds of dying early compared with people who do not eat as many flavonoid-rich foods.

"Flavonoids are naturally occurring, plant-based dietary components, rich in fruit and vegetables," said senior researcher Dr. Xiang Gao. He is director of the nutritional epidemiology lab at Pennsylvania State University.

"Adapting a healthy dietary pattern, high in colorful fruits and veggies, even after Parkinson diagnosis, could slow disease progression and improve survival rate," he added.

Still, the study can't prove that flavonoids prolonged the lives of Parkinson's patients, only that there may be an association, Gao said.

"In our previous study, published in Neurology in 2012, we found that flavonoids could prevent against Parkinson risk in the future among those who did not have Parkinson at the beginning of follow-up," Gao said. "The current study provides further evidence regarding neuro-protective effects of fruit and vegetables."

Flavonoids found in some fruits, teas and red wine can quickly cross the blood-brain barrier and ease oxidative stress, inflammation and atherosclerosis in the brain. which might reduce the impact of Parkinson's, the

researchers said. For the study, Gao and his colleagues collected data on more than 1,200 people with Parkinson's disease, average age 72, who had the condition for

an average of 33 years. Those whose diet included the most flavonoids had a 70% higher chance of survival compared with people whose diet included the least amount of flavonoids, the researchers found.

The report was published in the journal Neurology.



DREAMSTIME

Parton among Rock Hall nominees

Erom nover comrison

Dolly Parton, Eminem, Lionel Richie, Duran Duran and A Tribe Called Quest are among this year's first-time nominees for induction into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

The Cleveland-based institution announced 17 artists and groups being considered for Rock Hall induction, including Rage Against the Machine, Pat Benatar, Dionne Warwick, Carly Simon, Judas Priest and Beck. Beck and Simon are also nominated for the first time. Eminem earned a nomination in the first year he was eligible.

This year's class will be announced in May, with an induction ceremony planned for later this year. Artists must have released their first commercial recording at least 25 years before they're eligible for induction.

The other nominees are Kate Bush, DEVO, Eurythmics, Fela Kuti, MC5 and the New York Dolls.

ABC suspends Goldberg: Whoopi Goldberg was suspended for two weeks Tuesday as co-host of "The View" because of what the head of ABC News called her "wrong and hurtful comments" about Jews and the Holocaust.

"While Whoopi has apologized, I've asked her to take time to reflect and learn about the impact of her comments," ABC News President Kim Godwin said in a statement.

The suspension came a day after Goldberg's comment during a discussion on "The View" that race was not a factor in the Holocaust. Goldberg apologized hours later and again on Tuesday's episode, but the original remark drew condemnation from several prominent Jewish leaders.

Goldberg made her comments during a discussion on the show Monday



Dolly Parton is a first-time nominee for induction into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. **WADE PAYNE/INVISION 2015**

about a Tennessee school board's banning of "Maus," a Pulitzer Prize-winning graphic novel about the Nazi death camps during World War II.

The U.S. Holocaust
Museum in Washington
responded to the controversy in a tweet, posting,
"Racism was central to
Nazi ideology. Jews were
not defined by religion, but
by race. Nazi racist beliefs
fueled genocide and mass
murder."

On Wednesday, Goldberg's colleagues on "The View" had virtually nothing to say about her suspension. At the top of the show, co-host Joy Behar noted Goldberg's absence and said simply, with a tiny head tilt, "OK," before moving on to other topics.

'Lady A' lawsuits end: Veteran blues singer Anita White and the country band formerly known as Lady Antebellum have settled their dueling lawsuits over who gets to use the name "Lady A." The musicians filed joint requests on Monday for dismissals of name-dispute lawsuits.

The country trio altered its name in June 2020 to dissociate from the racist history of the pre-Civil War era that the name Lady Antebellum conjured. White, a Seattlebased artist, has gone by the stage name Lady A for decades.

Terms of the settlement were not publicly disclosed, and it's unclear if both parties can still use the name and what the terms of that use will be.

Feb. 3 birthdays: Actor Blythe Danner is 79. Actor Morgan Fairchild is 72. Actor Pamela Franklin is 72. Actor Nathan Lane is 66. Actor Michele Greene is 60. Actor Warwick Davis is 52. Actor Elisa Donovan is 51. Singer Daddy Yankee is 46. Actor Isla Fisher is 46. Actor Matthew Moy is 38. Actor Brandon Micheal Hall is 29.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Fourth grader should 'reframe' kids' behavior

Dear Amy: I'm in fourth grade. My classmates are very nosy. They always show off. They ask questions about my personal life and brag about how fast they read, among many other things.

I don't know how to respond to personal questions, and hearing everyone brag makes me so mad.

It's hard to learn with my rude classmates. I know this will keep happening in life, so I want to find ways to shut down their constant questions.

My parents say that adults can act this way, too, so learning to respond to rude people is a life skill I need.

Frustrated

Dear Frustrated: Your parents are right. People all through life will behave in ways that might confuse or upset you. Sometimes they're being rude on purpose, but a lot of the time, they're just being annoyingly human.

It's important to understand that your classmates all have different personalities, strengths and weaknesses — just like you do.

Kids tend to talk about their families a lot, because these are the people they know best, and talking about their families and asking questions about yours are one way of getting to know you better.

I try to do something called "reframing" when another person's behavior confuses me. It's a way to see things from a different

For instance, that classmate who is bugging you with questions might be "nosy" or "rude," or he might be "curious" in learning more about you. A classmate boasting about speed reading might be bragging, or she might be proud because she's made a lot of progress and wants to tell you about it.

Everybody's brain works a little differently. You could work with a counselor and your folks to figure out what your brain is telling you when other kids behave this way.

One way to respond when someone asks a question you don't want to answer is to change the subject by asking them a question: "Hey, how do you think you did on the math quiz?"

And here's my secret tip for when somebody asks me a nosy personal question that I don't want to answer: I give them a compliment!

For example: "Hey, Amy, is it true that you didn't get good grades in school?"
I respond: "Wow, I love

I respond: "Wow, I love your scarf. Did you make it yourself?"
You can practice these

and other responses with your parents. Your teacher also might want to move your seat to

want to move your seat to sit near classmates who won't be quite so noisy. I hope you can find

I hope you can find kids to hang out with who aren't quite so overwhelming, and who will give you all the time you need to get to know them, and for them to get to know you.

Dear Amy: My friend and I decided to bring her dilemma to you.

The issue is this: She knows her sister "Julie" is in quite a bit of trouble financially and with the IRS. The sister's husband, however, does not.

We are 100% sure that the brother-in-law doesn't

know about his wife's financial problems.

My friend isn't normally the type to interfere in anyone's life choices or cause any sort of trouble for people, especially those she loves, but she feels strongly that her brotherin-law should be made aware of the situation.

Her sister hides mail, gambles, and comes and goes as she pleases because her husband adores her and is willing to overlook these things, but he doesn't have all the facts.

Should she speak up? -I.A

Dear LA: If your friend's brother-in-law is "willing to overlook these things," then he has some awareness of the existence of "things," which he would choose to ignore.

The most I would suggest your friend do is to communicate: "Julie' recently disclosed to me the extent of her financial trouble; I can't be helpful other than to urge you two to talk about it. I hope you will"

Dear Amy: I was really moved by your response to "Son Holding a Grudge," who was unable to forgive his father for abandoning the family 35 years ago.

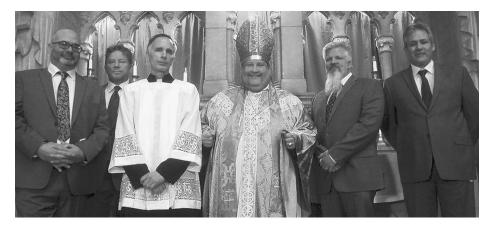
Thank you for urging this man to release his anger; his dad has been living rent-free in his head for all this time.

— Been There

Dear Been There: Thank you. I've been there, too.

Copyright 2022 by Amy Dickinson

Distributed by Tribune Content Agency



Joe Eldred, from left, Ed Gavagan, Michael Sandridge, Tom Viviano, Dan Laurine and Mike Foreman from the documentary "Procession." ${\bf NETFLIX}$

Doc 'Procession' depicts drama therapy of 6 sex abuse survivors

By Lindsey Bahr Associated Press

Filmmaker Robert Greene knows well the burden of responsibility in making a documentary. It's not just to the film itself, the audience or the storytelling. It's the responsibility to the subjects in front of the camera. And in "Procession," the subjects were six men who decades ago were sexually abused by Roman Catholic priests and clergy.

"I don't know that documentaries change the world, but I do know that they change the lives of the people on screen," Greene said.

There were a lot of ideas that had been circling in Greene's head by the time he saw a press conference on the news with four survivors and their lawyer in Kansas City that would ultimately inspire the project. A lifetime student of documentary, Greene was thinking about our evolving relationship with cameras, the point of making films at all anymore and whether they could actually be used to help people. He'd recently read the book "The Body Keeps the Score" and was introduced to the idea of drama therapy.

So, Greene decided to call the lawyer he saw on television, Rebecca Randles, to start a conversation about exploring their story through drama therapy.

"It wasn't about going to the guys and being like, 'Tell me how I can help you,' or something ridiculous like that," Greene said. "It was, 'Rebecca, tell us why this is not a good idea.' But she didn't say that."

It began a three-year process in which survivors Joe Eldred, Mike Foreman, Ed Gavagan, Dan Laurine, Michael Sandridge and Tom Viviano came together and, with the help of drama therapist Monica Phinney, created and performed scenes inspired by their memories. Greene was prepared to stop at any moment, if it got too hard for the men or seemed to be doing more harm than good. But they always found good reasons to continue.

Since its premiere at the Telluride Film Festival, "Procession" has received near-universal acclaim, played to many standing ovations and has even been shortlisted for a best documentary Oscar nomination. And the response since it hit Netflix has been overwhelming for everyone involved, with family members, friends, strangers and survivors all reaching out to express support

or tell their stories.

Early on in the process,

Greene sat around in a circle with the men and promised that they would work hard to find the right audience. The point of doing these exercises on camera was to help other survivors after all.

"So much of these guys' lives are dictated by shame. It can be debilitating," Greene said. "So to see the guys walking out in front of the Metrograph Theater and then a full crowd stands up and gives them a standing ovation? I mean, how many times in my life have I been cynical about the idea of a standing ovation after a documentary? Many, many times. And yet we embrace it instead of being cynical about it. We embrace the beauty of it and the love. That was transformative for those guys to be validated and say, 'Look, you did good and well and what you are is not your worst moment. What you are is not what happened to you. You were not damaged goods. You are not permanently destroyed. You have turned this awful, awful poison

into medicine.'

"We promised them that we would try our hardest and then that kind of validation," Greene added. "I am a deeply flawed human being. But I did not let them down in this regard. We didn't let them down."

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): A little bit of clarity can go a very long way! When people have misconceptions about you, correcting them is a good idea. It may be a bit of a bore, but it will bring you benefits in the long run. True friendships aren't built in a day, but you can begin them now.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): The big picture might seem too big at the moment. Don't worry too much about any false starts or missteps you may have made lately — no one can be perfect all the time. You should finally be able to correct any errors and get back on the right path!

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Getting a favor from someone may be a lot less complicated today. That said, you might not even need to do so at all! Make an effort to take a close look at your own resources and see how far they will stretch. It's all right if you do need a helping hand, but it's best not to rush.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Personal differences may make it difficult to get things done today. You might have more in common with your opposition than you think. Maybe you won't be the best of friends, but there's probably no reason to be mortal enemies either. Work together to resolve your differences.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):
Delays, mishaps and scheduling conflicts may seem to be the story of your life today! Reach out if you have concerns about anything — ironing out potential misunderstandings will be worth it later. Any lingering sense of uncertainty should fade once your questions are

answered.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): This is a great day to get things done — especially if you've felt unable to get started on any creative projects lately. You can push the world's distractions aside and make firm plans to start any projects that you've been saying you would do. Just go for it!

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your past could be weighing you down right now, dragging you into a rut that seems to be getting deeper all the time. Any recent detours to your plans were only a temporary glitch. Before you know it, things might not only be back to normal, they may be even better than before!

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It may seem like people have been deliberately trying to baffle you lately. It's likely been all too easy to grab the wrong end of the stick. Luckily, now you can get back on track. Plus, it wasn't all a waste of time. Confusion could have highlighted some formerly hidden issues that need to be sorted out.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your life may be tangled up with several loose ends at the moment, but you've got the power to pick them all up and get things in their proper place. Any setbacks or self-esteem issues could seem to melt away. You've had to take things slow lately. Now you can get out

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can truly kick your life into gear today. Your attitude matters! How you feel about the way you look matters. What feels good probably is good. You might want to test a few changes — even if they don't stick. You might discover a part of yourself.

there and make your move!

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Procrastination might actually be your best option at the moment. Some chaos may be bubbling deep down. That can make all the difference, and you never know when it will rise to the surface. Take this time to start gathering any relevant information you can.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Working out who your real friends are may not be easy. Whether you expect too much from the wrong person or ignore someone who wanted to be there for you, things might be pretty muddled. By the end of the day, things should become much clearer — you could realize that you've already got plenty of reliable pals.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Feb. 3, 1913, the 16th Amendment to the Constitution, providing for a federal income tax, was ratified.

In 1917, the U.S. broke off diplomatic relations with

Germany, the same day an American cargo ship, the SS Housatonic, was sunk by a U-boat off Britain after the crew was allowed to board lifeboats.

In 1959, rock-and-roll stars Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson died in a small plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa.

In 1966, the Soviet probe

Luna 9 became the first manmade object to make a soft landing on the moon.

In 1994, the space shuttle Discovery lifted off, carrying Sergei Krikalev, the first Russian cosmonaut to fly aboard a U.S. spacecraft.

In 2009, Eric Holder became the first Black U.S. attorney general as he was sworn in by Vice President Joe Biden.

BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at <u>PlayJumble.com</u>

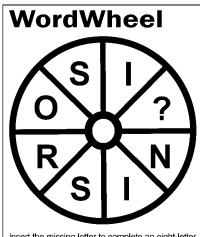


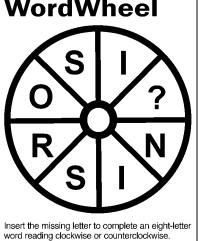
SUDOKU

4		7	-		7	7 5	6	8	C 3 d	-by igit	plet -3 b 1 to	e the	(in b	d so old l tegie	oorde s on l	n rov ers) d now to	conta	ins (every
			8		1				8		†	2	G	8	6	L	7	9	
	5			1					-	ì	L	8	Þ	۷	9	6	ε	2	
	2	8				4			2	<u> </u>	6	9	L	7	3	9	Þ	8	
	_			4		-	_		7	7,	Z	6	8	†	9	9	L	ε	
3				4			/		Į		G	₇	9	ε	7	8	2	6	
			3		1				Ç)	8	3	6	L	7	Þ	G	L	
		9				8		5	t	7	2	ļ	L	6	8	ε	9	9	
	_	_				_		12.00	6	3	3	9	2	9	L	7	8	Þ	
6 2017 T	/	1				2			8	3	9	L	ε	9	7	7	6	ŀ	

BOGGLE







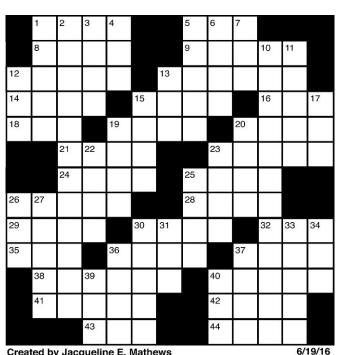
INCISORS

WORD SEARCH

	Wordsearch: veggie time																		
Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find the																			
	Α	Χ	Χ	R	D	Υ	S	Α	L	S	1	F	Υ	S	Р	Р	R	G	
	С	Α	R	R	0	Т	С	Z	U	С	С	Н	I	Ν	I	F	0	Р	
	М	Т	S	Р	U	Ε	R	Т	Υ	Χ	J	S	Q	Ν	Р	I	S	Α	
	Α	G	Ρ	U	Υ	0	Ε	S	В	U	U	Ρ	R	Α	Ε	В	Е	R	
	Х	Η	R	M	J	Ε	S	Ν	Ν	Н	Ε	U	G	S	Р	G	M	S	
	R	Ε	0	Р	В	С	S	Т	L	Q	Т	D	Е	Р	Р	С	Α	Ν	
	0	R	U	K	В	R	0	С	С	0	L		В	A	Е	Α	R	ı	
	W	K	T	ı	Α	L	Q		S	Н	Ε	R	В	R	R	Ρ	Y	Ρ	
	T	1	R	N	L	U	В	K	٧	G	D	٧	Ε	A	W	S	Р		
	0	N	G	Α	С	Α	В	В	Α	G	Ε	G	S	G	Q		С	В	
	M	Q	Η.	N	R	X	Ε	E	P	Ε	A	S	В	U	X	С	E	E	
	A	S	L	L	E	٧	U	Z	R	S	E	G	K	S	G	U	L	A	
	T	T	H	V	0	Y	G		N	G	E	R	Τ	Н	Y	M	Ε	N	
	0	0	1	L	Ε	Υ	Α	R	S	Р		N	A	С	Н	N	R	E	
	K	Α	С	K	С	Н		C	0	R	Y	N	М	D	0	Υ	Υ	K	
	C V	A F	E	Z H	P A	A R	R I	S C	L O	E	Y A	O B	E N	 	I N	E S	L A	A I	
	V I	_	•	• •	, ,	• •	•	_	_	•	٠.	_		_				_	
	L	С	Н	Α	R	D HIV	S -	W	E	D	E	0	0	L		T	Н	Ε	
	BEA BEE BRO CAE CAF CAF	AUBERGINE CLOVE BEAN CRESS BEET DILL BROCCOLI GHERKIN CABBAGE GINGER CAPSICUM HARICOT CARROT HERB CELERY KALE CHARD KOHLRABI						ON PA PA PE PE PU RA	RA RSL RSN AS PPE MPI DIS	EY IIP ER KIN	ťΥ	;	SAL: SHA SPIN SPU SWE THY TON TUR	LLC NAC OU D DE DE ME NIP	OT H T		he Puzzle Company, Dist. by Tribune Confent Agency.		

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- **ACROSS** "The Price Is Right" host
- 5 "Judging _ _ Downey 8 Actress 9 Actress and comedian Anne
- 12 Picture puzzle
 13 "Boston ___"; short-lived sitcom for Anthony Clark

- 14 Shade trees 15 Cher's ex
- 16 Mediocre grade 18 ...FDR, HŠT, __, JFK, LBJ...
- 19 Kermit, for one
- 20 Actress Ione 21 "The __ Breed"; James Stewart
- movie
- 23 Aspirin brand 24 Leg joint 25 Artist __ Chag 26 Dwelling 28 Opera solo
- __ Chagall
- 29 Mount Etna's output
- 30 Dog on "The Thin Man"
- 32 Aries the __; zodiac sign 35 __ boots; footwear for Jean-Claude Killy



- 36 Make baby bootees 37 "True __"; movie for Jeff Bridges and Matt Damon
- 38 Fancy pastry 40 Actress Marcia
- 41 Scarlett's love
- 42 "My Cat from _
- _"; Animal Planet series 43 "20,000 Leagues Under the __"
- 44 Make eyes at

DOWN

- 1 Great fear
- 2 Actor on "NCIS: New Orleans"3 Large flightless birds from
- "That Was the Week That ___"
 "A Walk ___ the Tombstones";
- Liam Neeson film 6 Short note 7 Item similar to a sweet potato
- 10 Actor on "NCIS" 11 "Eye for __"; movie for Sally Field and Kiefer Sutherland
- 12 Steiger or Serling
- 13 Pigeon's cry 15 Role on "Desperate Housewives"
- 17 Suffix for command or auction 19 "Born __"; film about a lioness
- 20 Indian woman's robe 22 "Two __ Half Men" 23 Theda of the silents
- 25 Dad on "Little People, Big World" 26 Pacino and Molinaro
- 27 Simon of "The Mentalist" 30 Ekberg or Gillette
- 31 "To __, with Love"; movie for Sidney Poitier
- 33 Supermarket walkway 34 Everest and McKinley: abbr.
- _ & Allie"
- Miserables'
- 37 "Dharma &

40 Comedian Margaret

\Mandaaanah.

	Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.																
diago	nally.	The		s will	alway		in a s	traigh	nt line	. Cro	ss the	em of	f the I		you f	ind th	em.
Α	X	X	R	D	Υ	S	Α	L	S	1	F	Υ	S	Р	Р	R	G
С	Α	R	R	0	Т	С	Z	U	С	С	Н	ı	Ν	ı	F	О	Р
M	Т	S	Р	U	Е	R	Т	Υ	X	J	S	Q	Ν	Р	I	S	Α
A	G	Р	U	Υ	0	Ε	S	В	U	U	Р	R	Α	Ε	В	Ε	R
X	Н	R	M	J	Ε	S	Ν	Ν	Н	Ε	U	G	S	Р	G	M	S
R	Ε	0	Р	В	С	S	Т	L	Q	Т	D	Ε	Р	Р	С	Α	N
0	R	U	K	В	R	0	С	С	0	L		В	Α	Ε	Α	R	I
W	K	Т	ı	Α	L	Q	I	S	Н	E	R	В	R	R	Р	Υ	Р
T	ı	R	Ν	L	U	В	K	٧	G	D	٧	E	Α	W	S	Р	I
0	Ν	G	Α	С	Α	В	В	Α	G	E	G	S	G	Q	I	С	В
M	Q	Н	Ν	R	X	Ε	Ε	Р	Ε	Α	S	В	U	X	С	Ε	Е
A	S	L	L	Ε	V	U	Z	R	S	Е	G	K	S	G	U	L	Α
T	Т	Н	٧	0	Υ	G	ı	N	G	Ε	R	Т	Н	Υ	M	Ε	N
0	0	l	L	Ε	Υ	Α	R	S	Р	ı	N	Α	С	Н	Ν	R	Ε
K	Н	С	K	С	Н	ı	С	0	R	Υ	N	M	D	0	Υ	Υ	K
С	Α	Е	Z	Р	Α	R	S	L	E	Υ	0	E	ı	ı	E	L	Α
V	E	Υ	Н	Α	R	I	С	0	Т	Α	В	N	L	Ν	S	Α	L
L	С	Н	Α	R	D	S	W	Ε	D	Ε	0	0	L	ı	Т	Н	E
ASPARAGUS CHIVE AUBERGINE CLOVE BEAN CRESS BEET DILL BROCCOLI GHERKIN CABBAGE GINGER CAPSICUM HARICOT CARROT HERB CELERY KALE						ON PA PA PE PE PU	RA IION RSL RSN	EY IIP ER KIN		;	SAL SHA SPI SPU SWE THY TOM	NAC OU D EDE ME	DT Η Γ	Company, Dist. by Tribune Content Agency.			



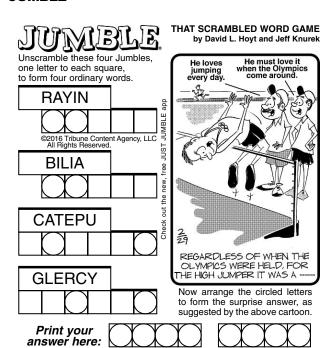
	С		М		F		Т		N		G	
М	0	Ν	0	\vdash	0	N	Е		Α	В	U	⊣
	I		Δ		R		Δ		О	כ	Z	Е
1	Ν	٧	Ш	_	G	Ι		Ι	1	Z	G	Ш
		ш	Μ	С	Е	Е		Α	R	С	I	
Р	Е	R		Y		Y	0	כ		Ι	0	В
	G	Υ	М			S	1	L	L			С
В	Υ	F	0	0	Т		┙	Α	U	R	Е	Г
	Р	Ε	Т	R	0	L		G	R	U	Ε	Г
	Т	W	Ε	Е	Т		S	Е	Е	М	L	Υ
	•	V V	_	-	•			_	_	IVI	-	•

ADVERSARY

JUMBLE

LEEK

CHICORY

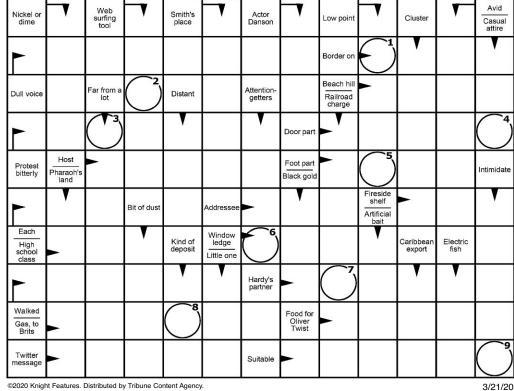


SAGE

Jumbles: RAINY ALIBI TEACUP CLERGY Answer: Regardle he Olympics ss of wher vere held. for the high jumper it was a — LEAP YEAR

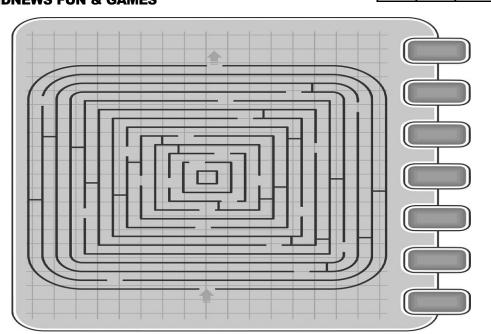
ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



WHICH 2 ARE THE SAME?

Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz









Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau









Garfield By Jim Davis





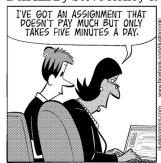


Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly





Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker







Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis









futts By Patrick McDonr







Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt









Jump Start By Robb Armstrong







Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley







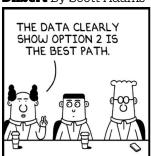


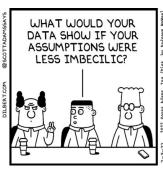
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall





Dilbert By Scott Adams





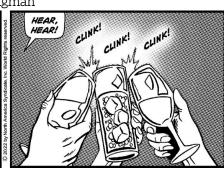


Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman





Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty







Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manlev





Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos

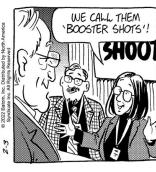




an by Tom Batiuk

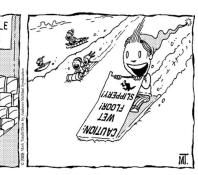






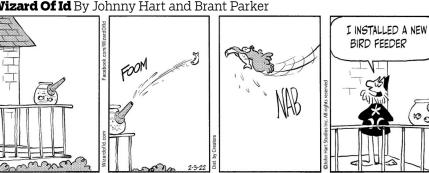
Lio By Mark Tatulli





(B)

Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



Monty By Jim Meddick



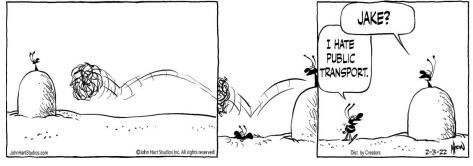
For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston





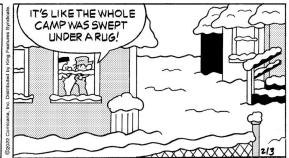


B.C. By Hart



Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker





Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne



Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne





Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller



Curtis By Ray Billingsley



Pickles By Brian Crane









Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman





Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer





Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

18

21

22

31

33

Across

violently

- Goes on and on Like storytelling Continued
- Spiky succulent Half a salon job Prize
- 16 17 Failed to honor
- 19 Like some diets 20 Psychiatry? 22 Like a pin? 25
- Phil, to fans 26 Golfer's support 27 L.A. commuter
- org. Remind over and
- over Neighbor of 30
- Greece: Abbr. 32 A noble title and entrée into high
- society?
- 38 Father 39 Jimmy Eat World

- genre
- R&B artist India. 42 Passion of a
- well-trained city dog?
- Alternative to email
- 48 German grandpa '60s war
- zone Speaker in a typical
- Swifty 53 Craft brew choices
- 56 How Mona Lisa smiles 58 Blue plumage,
- say? Many pop soloists Settings for
- hiking and running 66 In again 67 Comfort
- 68 With 71-Across, possible result of my gain . and what

- four long answers have undergone? "The Dancing
- Couple" painter Jan Place for pupils 71 See 68-Across

Down

- 1 Mason 2 It may be blonde 23
- or amber Hockey great 3 Captured
- 4 Note below F? Drinks may be put on one
- 6 Funny Foxx Spanish for
- 'mudbrick' "House intellectual" in
- 'Peanuts," per Schulz
 - stuffed
- - Mideast port
- - 10
 - city
- 9 Pockets usually

- 36
 - Johnson successor 37 Scratching post

35

11 Fetch 12 Totally remove

Oracle Park

Places for

15-Acrosses

Old Ramblers,

Stiff-upper-lip

Scottish lowland

Tiny Pacific

"Sons of," in

Indoor ball

Lifesaver,

brand

briefly

district

material

temple names

player

briefly

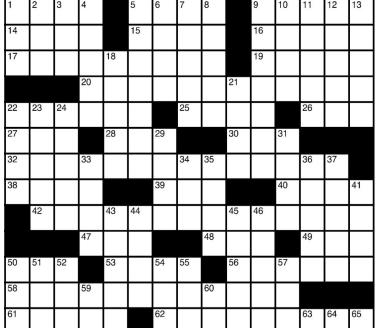
type

nation

- 43 Abandons in a Hard to get through ... or get through to
 - fair
- crisis 44 Fairly large

41 Part of EGOT

- 45 Silver linings 46 Medina resident
- 50 Makeup of a long Russian
- 51 Parliament newcomer?
- 52 Photo finish "What a
- shame!' Surf feature
- New Hampshire state mineral
- Stories to pass
- 60 Hike
- Carnaby Street's 63 Castle queenside,
 - in chess
 - notation
 - 64 Xi preceders
 - 65 Prom gp.



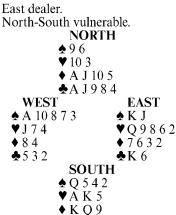
By Lewis Rothlein and Nancy Stark

Tribune Content Agency 2/3/22

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

67



Opening lead — seven of spades. **Every card**

West

Pass

North

3 NT

battle.

♣Q 10 7

South

1 NT

The bidding

East

Pass

Very few deals require one to do something highly unusual in order to obtain the best result. But such situations do occur, and one test of a player's skill is the ability to rise to that occasion when the

opportunity presents itself. Take this deal where South was in three notrump and West led the spade seven. East won with the king and returned the jack, ducked by declarer. East then shifted to the six of hearts, taken by the ace. The queen-of-clubs finesse lost to East's king, but that was the last trick for the defense,

and South made four notrump. What's wrong with this picture, you might ask? The play and the outcome seem entirely normal, yet the fact remains that East almost surely would have defeated the contract he had defended differently. Instead of playing the king of spades at trick one, he should have played the jack! Had he done this, allowing declarer to win the first trick with the

queen, three notrump would have gone down one. Sooner or later, South would have attempted the club finesse, losing to the king, and East's king-of-spades return, overtaken by West with the ace, would have settled declarer's hash.

How can East know at trick one that he should violate the general rule of playing third-hand high? Because he knows from the Rule of

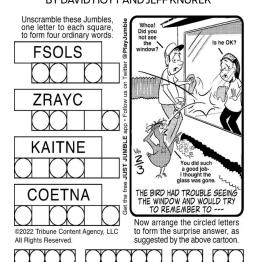
Eleven that South has only one spade

higher than the seven West led. If South's high spade is the ace, he would undoubtedly hold it up until at least the second round of the suit, so that East will

not be able to return a spade later. If the high spade is the queen, though, declarer is very likely to take the first trick, after which he will be fighting a losing

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

JUMBLE BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



Jumbles: AVOID

TODAY'S SUDOKU

	8			9	4		1	
					6			7
3 6	6							9
6		5		7	2			8
7			6	1		5		2
1							3	4
2			9					

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders) contains visit www.sudoku.org.uk **ANSWER TO**

J E T S K I S S T Y L E
O X O E M P T Y A

EAGLE

character was a - NOVEL IDEA

Answer: People thought Mary Shelley's new Frankenstein

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE





(Answers tomorrow)

GOVERN

every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku,

Yesterday's









Subject to Credit Approval

terms and conditions.

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of





FREE VIRTUAL OR IN-HOME CONSULATIONS

860-512-8496

CONSULTANTS AND INSTALLERS FOLLOW CDC SAFETY GUIDELINES

Serving most of the state of Connecticut

This Window World® Franchise is independently owned and operated by Window World of Connecticut LLC under license from Window World Inc. CT Lic. # 607051 ^ See your Window World sales representative for more information about our guaranteed lowest pricing and paying up to 50% less than the price of our main competitors. *0% APR financing with approved credit through Wells Fargo Bank.



SPORTS

COURANT.COM/SPORTS

UCONN FOOTBALL NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

Huskies stock up on new QB talent

By Dom Amore
Hartford Courant

STORRS — The transfer portal is often described as "the wild west," players moving in or out almost hourly, any time of year. When new UConn football coach Jim Mora sees a familiar name, he and his staff move quickly.

his staff move quickly.

They pounced when Ta'Quan Roberson's name popped up in December. In rounding up talent to turn around a program that is 7-41 since 2017, a Penn State quarterback with Roberson's background was a no-brainer.

"I knew who he was, because I followed recruiting," Mora said. "A four-star kid out of one of the best high school programs in the country. When he popped in the portal, this was a guy we needed to try

Reconstructing a roster

UConn football signed 15 new players Wednesday. Here are some things to know about the group.

Staying home: Two are top players from Connecticut, Cam Edwards from Norwalk and Prince Samuels from Windsor.

QB upgrade: Ta'Quan Roberson (New Jersey) and Zion Turner (Florida)

have won a total of four state championships. **Coming on board:** Four are graduate transfers including offensive lineman

Jack Guidone from Dartmouth. **Getting going:** Coach Jim Mora plans to start spring practice March 21,

with a spring game April 22.

to connect with immediately. We were able to get him in here and show him what the plan would be for him and, I'll tell you, he's a really great kid. He's impressive."

Roberson, a redshirt sophomore from DePaul Catholic in New Jersey, didn't see much playing time at Penn State in his future. He committed to UConn just after Christmas and was one of 15 signees announced by Mora on national signing day Wednesday.

"This kid's a winner, and we've already seen it, organizing guys on the field Saturdays, galvaniz-

Turn to Recruiting, Page 4



Husky now, one of 15 players welcomed by coach Jim Mora on signing day.

BARRY REEGER/AP

UCONN MEN'S BASKETBALL

Power shortage

What Huskies need to do to rebound from low-energy loss to Creighton

By Shreyas Laddha Hartford Courant

The UConn men's basketball team didn't play with a sense of urgency on Tuesday night, at least that's how coach Dan Hurley saw it

The Huskies lost another close game, 59-55, to Creighton at XL Center. The Bluejays, coming off two straight conference losses, played like a team looking for a win and it showed in their effort level. Hurley felt like his team's energy didn't match up to Creighton's.

When asked the reason why, his answer was to the point. "[Creighton's] level of desperation," Hurley said. "We didn't play life or death until the second half."

The Bluejays played tough, physical basketball that had the Huskies (15-5, 6-3 Big East) uncomfortable from tipoff. The offensive effort outside of forward Isaiah Whaley was abysmal and lacked a level of cohesion, especially in the first half. Creighton was daring Whaley to shoot, and although he made them pay with a career-high 20 points, nobody else showed up. R.J. Cole was the only other Husky in double figures with 13.

UConn's shot selection left much to be desired illustrated by a season-low 29-for-67 (29.9%) performance as the Huskies took too many ill-advised and contested shots that

Turn to Huskies, Page 4



Villanova Noon Sat., FOX

UConn at

NO. 10 UCONN WOMEN 76, CREIGHTON 56



UConn's Olivia Nelson-Ododa (20) knocks the ball away from Creighton's Rachael Saunders on Wednesday in Omaha, Neb. REBECCA S. GRATZ/AP

Poor start, strong finish

UConn overcomes big early deficit, Auriemma's absence to top Creighton

By Alexa Philippou Hartford Courant

Coach Geno Auriemma has challenged his UConn women's basketball team to be better at fighting through adversity this season. Good thing because adversity was certainly what the Huskies faced Wednesday night in Omaha, Neb.

Auriemma did not join the team after not feeling well right before tipoff, graduate transfer Dorka Juhász (foot) remained out with an injury and the Huskies faced a

12-point deficit to Creighton in the second half.

Behind associate head coach Chris Dailey's guidance and some standout play from their seniors, the No. 10 Huskies turned their worst start of the season into one of their better performances in some time, defeating the Bluejays 76-56 to remain undefeated in conference play since 2013.

Senior Olivia Nelson-Ododa finished with a double-double of 17 points and 14 rebounds, as well as six assists. Redshirt senior Evina Westbrook did her part with 10 points, five rebounds and five assists, while senior Christyn Williams bounced back from early foul trouble to come out with another strong showing

with 17 points and three assists.

UConn (14-4, 9-0 Big East) outscored Creighton (15-6, 10-3) 58-26 following the 4:05 mark of the second quarter.

SNY said Auriemma's issue was not COVID-19 related. He never returned to the floor, and Dailey improved to 13-0 when serving as acting head coach.

Dailey said Auriemma "just wasn't

Dailey said Auriemma "just wasn't feeling well" before the game and that it was "smart" for him to stay back. "If he was watching it, he probably wasn't feeling well for awhile either," she said. "He said he'd feel better if we won."

UConn started off playing arguably its worst basketball of the season. They allowed open 3s on

defense, were beat to loose balls and turned the ball over incessantly (seven times in the first quarter alone). After Westbrook's 3, the Huskies trailed by nine at the end of the first frame but by 12 later in the second period. The Bluejays, one of the most prolific 3-point shooting teams in the country, made more 3s in the first half Wednesday than they did in the entirety of the teams' first meeting on Jan. 9.

Then, UConn dug deep and found a spark. Behind much better defense and smarter offense, the Huskies finished the first half on a 12-2 run to cut the deficit to 32-30 going into the locker room. Nelson-Ododa and Westbrook had 20 of UConn's 30 points in the first 20 minutes.

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Westbrook point guard moves closer to joining her mother in 1,000-point club

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

WESTBROOK — Sue Sacco understood exactly what her daughter, Jami, was going through

Wednesday night with her 1,000th

point for the Westbrook High girls

basketball team in sight.

Sue went through the same thing. She scored 1,000 points for Westbrook in 1986, her senior year.

"Oh yeah, I remember we were away at Old Lyme," Sue said. "I was missing layups; it was ridiculous. It's hard. I can empathize with her for sure."

Jami, a senior point guard who averages 18 points per game, needed 20 against winless Hale-Ray in a Shoreline Conference game. She finished with nine, but after Westbrook trailed in the first half, the Purple Knights won, 41-25.

"I just felt bad for her because I know she was in her head thinking about it," Sue said. "But we're happy they got the win. That's the main thing." It's not known how many moth-

er-daughter duos have scored 1,000 points at the same high

school in Connecticut but it's not common.

When Sue, then Sue McKenna, reached her milestone, Westbrook had won 62 straight games from 1984-86 and she finished

Turn to Westbrook, Page 6

Did you know?

Adjusting both audio and climate controls while driving account for a significant number of traffic fatalities caused by distracted driving.

riscassi-davis.com

131 Oak Street • Hartford, Connecticut 860.522.1196 • 800.344.5297





EASTERN CONFERENCE ATLANTIC .620 Philadelphia 31 19 29 21 26 23 27 25 .580 .531 Brooklyn Toronto .519 7 1/2 New York 24 27 .471 SOUTHEAST W L PCT GB 32 20 28 23 24 26 .615 .549 Miami Charlotte 3 ½ .480 7 8 21 Atlanta 23 27 11 41 Washington Orlando .460 .212 CENTRAL W L PCT GB 32 18 31 20 Chicago 1 ½ 1 ½ 1 ½ 14 20 Cleveland .608 32 21 19 33 12 38 Milwaukee .604 **WESTERN CONFERENCE** W L PCT SOUTHWEST 35 18 .660 Memphis 5 .373 15 .365 15½ New Orleans San Antonio 19 33 Houston NORTHWEST W L PCT GB 30 21 28 22 Utah .588 Denver Minnesota 26 25 .510 Portland Oklahoma City 21 30 **PACIFIC** w L PCT GB Phoenix .820 Golden State 39 13 .750 L.A. Clippers L.A. Lakers 26 27 24 27 .491 .471 16 1/2 17 1/2 Sacramento .346

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS Orlando at Indiana, late Washington at Philadelphia, late Charlotte at Boston, late Memphis at New York, late Cleveland at Houston, late Oklahoma City at Dallas, late Brooklyn at Sacramento, late Denver at Utah, late Portland at L.A. Lakers, late

THURSDAY'S GAMESMinnesota at Detroit, 7p.m. Chicago at Toronto, 7:30p.m. Phoenix at Atlanta, 7:30p.m. Miami at San Antonio, 8:30p.m. L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers, 10p.m. Sacramento at Golden State, 10p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS New Orleans 111, Detroit 101 Toronto 110, Miami 106 Milwaukee 112, Washington 98 Chicago 126, Orlando 115 Minnesota 130, Denver 115 Golden State 124. San Antonio 120 Phoenix 121, Brooklyn 111

RISING STARS ROSTER POOL

Scottie Barnes, Toronto Raptors Cade Cunningham, Detroit Pistons Ayo Dosunmu, Chicago Bulls Chris Duarte, Indiana Pacers Josh Giddey, Oklahoma City Thunder Jalen Green, Houston Rockets Herbert Jones, New Orleans Pelicans Davion Mitchell, Sacramento Kings Evan Mobley, Cleveland Cavaliers Alperen Sengun, Houston Rockets Jalen Suggs, Orlando Magic Franz Wagner, Orlando Magic **SOPHOMORES**

Precious Achiuwa, Toronto Raptors Cole Anthony, Orlando Magic LaMelo Ball, Charlotte Hornets Desmond Bane, Memphis Grizzlies Saddiq Bey, Detroit Pistons Anthony Edwards, Minnesota Timber

Tyrese Haliburton, Sacramento Kings Tyrese Maxey, Philadelphia 76ers Jaden McDaniels, Minnesota T'wolves Isaac Okoro, Cleveland Cavaliers Isaiah Stewart, Detroit Pistons Jae'Sean Tate, Houston Rockets
G LEAGUE IGNITE

MarJon Beauchamp Dyson Daniels Scoot Henderson

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE								
CLUB	GΡ	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT	
Man City	23	18	3	2	55	14	57	
Liverpool	22	14	6	2	58	19	48	
Chelsea	24	13	8	3	48	18	47	
Man United	22	11	5	6	36	30	38	
West Ham	23	11	4	8	41	31	37	
Arsenal	21	11	3	7	33	25	36	
Tottenham	20	11	3	6	26	24	36	
Wolverhampton	21	10	4	7	19	16	34	
Brighton	22	6	12	4	23	23	30	
Leicester	20	7	5	8	34	37	26	
Aston Villa	21	8	2	11	28	32	26	
Southampton	22	5	10	7	26	34	25	
Crystal Palace	22	5	9	8	31	34	24	
Brentford	23	6	5	12	26	38	23	
Leeds	21	5	7	9	24	40	22	
Everton	20	5	4	11	24	35	19	
Norwich	22	4	4	14	13	45	16	
Newcastle	21	2	9	10	21	43	15	
Watford	20	4	2	14	23	40	14	
Burnley	18	1	9	8	16	27	12	
Burnley	18	1	9	8	16	27	12	

SATURDAY'S MATCH Burnley vs. Watford, 1p.m.

U.S. MEN'S SCHEDULE (1-1-0) **q-Wednesday:** vs. Honduras at St. Paul, Minn., late q-March 24: at Mexico q-March 27: vs. Panama at Orlando,

q-March 30: at Costa Rica *q-World Cup qualifying*

COLLEGE BASK FAVORITE	ETB	ALL THURSDAY UNDERDOG
at Ohio		
		Eastern Michigan
at Morehead St.	11½	Tennessee Tech Drexel
at Delaware	5	Dionoi
St. John's (NY)	41/2	at Georgetown
Oakland	3	at N. Kentucky
Western Kentucky	11/2	at Charlotte
Louisiana Tech	21/2	at Fla. Atlantic
at Florida Int'l	71/2	Southern Miss
at Cent. Michigar		Western Michigan
at Northeastern	11/2	JMU
at UCF	111/2	000000000000000000000000000000000000000
at Wright State	4	Detroit Mercy
South Alabama	21/2	at Ga. Southern
Youngstown St.	121/2	at IUPUI
at Georgia State	6	Troy
at Hofstra	3	Towson
Charleston (SC)	6	at William & Mary
at SMU	6	Wichita State
at Sam Houston	81/2	Dixie State
La. Lafayette	51/2	at Ark. Little Rock
at St. F. Austin	2	Utah Valley
at Tex. Arlington	1	Coastal Carolina
at Ohio State	5	lowa
at Old Dominion	31/2	Marshall
at Texas State	4 /	Appalachian State
at Rice	121/2	
at Illinois-Chicag		Robert Morris
at Arizona	7	UCLA
SE Louisiana	1	at McNeese St.
NBA		THURSDAY

NBA			THURSDAY
FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Detroit	Off	(Off)	Minnesota
at Toronto	31/2	(2251/	
at Atlanta	Off	(Off)	Phoenix
Miami	31/2	(219)	at San Antonio
at Golden State	Off	(Off)	Sacramento
at LA Clippers	Off	(Off)	LA Lakers

NFL SUPER BOWL LVI FEB. 13 SP O/U UNDERDOG 4½ (48½) at Cincinnati FAVORITE TOTAL SACKS IN THE GAME 5-9 Under 4.5

RELING WINTED OF VMDICS

PEDING WI	MIEV.	OFLIMITIO	3
MOST OVERA	ALL GOL	D MEDALS	
Norway	2-7	Germany	4-
Russia	9-1	U.S.	14
Canada	16-1	Netherlan	ds 40-
China	50-1	Sweden	100-
Switzerland	150-1	Austria	200
Japan	200-1	France	500-
Italy	500-1	South Kore	ea 500-
Finland	750-1	Poland	1,000
Australia	2,000-1	Cz. Rep.	2,000
For the latest	t odds, g	go to	
FanDuel Spor	rtsbook	,	
https://sport	sbook.	fanduel.co	m/

EASTERN CONFERENCE Florida 47 32 10 5 69 194 139 Tampa Bay Toronto 46 30 10 6 66 157 130 42 29 10 3 61 153 112 43 26 14 3 55 131 120 **Boston** Detroit Buffalo 46 20 20 6 46 127 157 45 14 24 7 35 117 157 40 14 22 4 32 110 136 Ottawa Montreal 8 29 7 23 99 172 GP W L OT PTS GF GA METRO. 42 31 9 2 64 147 Carolina N.Y. Rangers 47 30 13 4 64 145 122 Pittsburgh 46 27 11 8 62 154 124 Washington 46 25 12 9 59 149 125 Columbus

N.Y. Islanders	38	16	16	6	38	93	10
Philadelphia	45	15	22	8	38	113	15
New Jersey	45	15	25	5	35	126	16
WESTERN C	:ON	IFF	RF	NC	F		
CENTRAL					PTS	GF	G
Colorado	44	32	8	4	68	183	12
Nashville	46	28	14	4	60	144	12
Minnesota	40	27	10	3	57	156	12
St. Louis	44	26	13	5	57	153	12
Dallas	43	23	18	2	48	129	13
Winnipeg	42	18	17	7	43	120	12
Chicago	45	16	22	7	39	112	15
Arizona	44	11	29	4	26	97	16
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	G/
Vegas	46	27	16	3	57	158	13
Anaheim	48	23	16	9	55	141	13
Los Angeles	46	23	16	7	53	131	12
Calgary	41	22	13	6	50	132	10
San Jose	46	22	20	4	48	126	14
Edmonton	41	22	16	3	47	137	13
Vancouver	46	20	20	6	46	115	12
Seattle	45	14	27	4	32	118	15
WEDNESDAY'	C D	ECII	ште				

Edmonton at Washington, late Seattle at N.Y. Islanders, late Los Angeles at Detroit, late Calgary at Arizona, late Minnesota at Chicago, late

ALL-STAR COMPETITIONS T-Mobile ARENA, LAS VEGAS Friday: Skills Challenge -Fountain Face-Off

 Fastest Skater - Save Streak - Hardest Shot - Breakaway Challenge - Accuracy Shooting **Saturday:** All-Star Game, 3 p.m.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS Philadelphia 3, Winnipeg 1 N.Y. Rangers 5, Florida 2 Toronto 7, New Jersey 1 Boston 3, Seattle 2 Tampa Bay 3, San Jose 2 (OT) Washington 4, Pittsburgh 3 (OT) N.Y. Islanders 4, Ottawa 1 Nashville 4, Vancouver 2 Calgary 4, Dallas 3 Arizona 3, Colorado 2 (SO) Vegas 5, Buffalo 2

NFL PLAYOFFS

SUPER BOWL LVI Sunday, Feb. 13, at Sofi Stadium, Inglewood, Calif. No. 4 L.A. Rams (15-5) vs. No. 4 Cincinnati (13-7), 6:30 p.m.

PRO BOWL

Sunday at Allegiant Stadium, Las Vegas, 3 p.m. **PLAYOFF TOP PERFORMERS**

PASSING 404: Patrick Mahomes II, KC vs. PIT 1/16 (30-39, 5 TD) **378:** Patrick Mahomes II, KC vs. BUF 1/23 (OT) (33-44, 3 TD) 366: Matthew Stafford, LAR at TB 1/23 (28-38, 2 TD) **348:** Joe Burrow, CIN at TEN 1/22 (28-37, 0 TD) **337:** Matthew Stafford, LAR vs. SF 1/30 (31-43, 2 TD) 329: Josh Allen, BUF at KC 1/23 (OT) (27-37, 4 TD) **329:** Tom Brady, TB vs. LAR 1/23 (30-54, 1 TD) RUSHING 96: Elijah Miethcll, SFat DAL 1/16

(27 car., TD) 88: Joe Mixon, CIN at KC 1/30 (21 car., 0 TD) 83: Josh Jacobs, OAK at CIN 1/15 (13 car, 0 TD)

81: Devin Singletary, BUF vs. NE 1/15 (16 car, 2 TD) 72: Deebo Samuel, SF at DAL 1/16 (10 car, TD

RECEIVING 201: Gabriel Davis, BUF at KC 1/23 (OT) (8 rec., 4 TD) 183: Cooper Kupp, LAR at TB 1/23 (9 rec., 1 TD) 150: Tyreek Hill, KC vs. BUF 1/23 (OT) (11 rec., 1 TD) 1/23 (O1) (11 rec., 1 ID) 142: Cooper Kupp, LAR vs. SF 1/30 (11 rec., 2 TD) 142: A.J. Brown, TEN vs. CIN 1/22 (5 rec., 1 TD) 129: Aaron Jones, GB vs. SF

1/22 (9 rec., 0 TD) 119: Mike Evans, TB vs. LAR 1/23 (8 rec., 1 TD) 117: Mike Evans, TB vs. PHI 1/16 (9 rec., 1 TD) 116: Ja'Marr Chase, CIN vs. LAS 1/15 (9 rec., 0 TD)

PLACEKICKER MATCHUP

Matt Gray GRAY	(LA) vs. Evan McPh CATEGORY M	
32-34	Total field goals	28-3
94.1	Field goal pct.	84.
0-0	1-19 yards	0-
6-6	20-29 yards	5-
15-15	30-39 yards	8-
7-8	40-49 yards	6-
4-5	50+ yards	9-1
55	Longest field goal	5
7-9 (77.7)	Playoff FG (%)	12-12 (100
48-49	Extra points	46-4
102	Kickoffs	9
61.9	Kickoff average	63.
65	Touchbacks	5

WINTER OLYMPICS

WEDNESDAY'S SCORES **CURLING. Mixed Doubles. Round Robin** Britain 9, Sweden 5 United States 6, Australia 5 Czech Rep. 7, Norway 6(Extra Ends) China 7, Switzerland 6(Extra Ends) Sweden vs. Czech Republic, late USA vs. Italy, late. Australia vs. China, late Great Britain vs. Canada, late

ICE HUCKET						
Women, Preliminary Round						
Group A	W	L	PT	GF	GA	
Canada	0	0	0	0	0	
Finland	0	0	0	0	0	
ROC	0	0	0	0	0	
Switzerland	0	0	0	0	0	
U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	
Group B	w	Ĺ	PT	GF	GA	
Group B China	W 0	L	PT 0	GF 0	GA 0	
		L 0				
China	0	-	0	0	0	
China Czech Republic	0	Ö	0	0	0	
China Czech Republic Denmark	0 0	0	0 0	0 0	0 0 0	

B. Czech Republic v China, late THURSDAY'S EVENTS

Mixed Curling, Round Robin Italy v Switzerland, 1:05a.m. USA v Norway, 1:05a.m. Norway vs. Canada, 7:05a.m. Switzerland vs. Great Britain, 7:05p.m. China vs. Sweden, 7:05a.m. Czech Republic vs. Australia, 7:05a.m. Sweden vs. Australia, 7:35p.m. Canada vs. Switzerland, 7:35p.m. Italy vs. Norway, 7:35p.m. ICE HOCKEY

Women, Preliminary Round B. Sweden vs. Japan. 3:40a.m. A, Finaldn vs. USA, 8:10a.m. A, ROC vs. Switzerland, 11:10p.m. B, Denmark vs. China, 11:10p.m. FREESTYLE SKIING Women's Moguls, Qualification, 4 a.m. Men's Moguls, Qualification, 5:45 a.m. FIGURE SKATING Mixed Team, Qualification, Men's Short Program, 8:35p.m. Mixed Team, Oualification, Rhythm

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

1. Auburn (21-1) did not play. Next: at Georgia, Saturday 2. Gonzaga (17-2) did not play. Next: at 3. UCLA (16-2) did not play. Next: at #7 Arizona, Thursday.

4. Purdue (19-3) beat Minnesota 88-73. Next: vs. Michigan, Saturday. 5. Kentucky (17-4) vs. Vanderbilt. Next: at Alabama, Saturday. 6. Houston (18-2) vs. Tulane. Next: at **7. Arizona (17-2) did not play. Next:** vs. #3 OCIA, Huisuay. **8. Baylor (19-3) did not play. Next:** at #10 Kansas, Saturday. **9. Duke (18-3) did not play. Next:** at North Carolina, Saturday.

10. Kansas (18-3) did not play. Next: vs. #8 Baylor, Saturday 11. Wisconsin (17-3) at #18 Illinois. Next: vs. Penn State, Saturday. 12. Villanova (16-5) at #24 Marquette. Next: vs. #17 UConn, Saturday.

13. Michigan State (17-4) did not play. Next: at Rutgers, Saturday 14. Texas Tech (17-5) did not play.
Next: at West Virginia, Saturday. 15. Providence (19-2) did not play Next: at Georgetown, Sunday. 16. Ohio State (13-5) did not play. Next: vs. Iowa, Inursay.
17. UConn (15-5) did not play. Next: at #12 Villanova, Saturday.
18. Illinois (15-5) vs. #11 Wisconsin.
Next: at Indiana, Saturday.
19. Southern Cal (18-3) did not play. Next: at Arizona State, Thursday 20. Iowa State (16-6) did not play. Next: at #23 Texas, Saturday.

21. Xavier (15-5) vs. Butler. Next: vs. DePaul, Saturday.

22. Tennessee (15-6) did not play. Next: at South Carolina, Saturday 23. Texas (16-6) did not play. Next: vs. #20 Iowa State, Saturday.

24. Marquette (15-7) vs. #12 Villanova. Next: at #17 UConn, Tuesday. 25. LSU (16-6) did not play. Next: at

WEDNESDAY'S SCORES EAST

Colgate 83, Bucknell 69 Lafayette 71, American 62 Mass.-Lowell 62, Maine 50 New Hampshire 70, Hartford 64 UMBC 59, Albany (NY) 53 Vermont 90, NJIT 67 SOUTH

Arkansas 99, Georgia 73 Furman 102, The Citadel 83 Gardner-Webb 65, High Point 57 Longwood 56, UNC-Asheville 48 Notre Dame 68, Miami 64 Radford 64, Charleston Southern 52 VMI 76, UNC-Greensboro 65 W. Carolina 87, ETSU 84 MIDWEST

Drake 85, Indiana St. 67 Florida 66, Missouri 65 Purdue 88, Minnesota 73 Abilene Christian 77, Chicago St. 73

MEN'S INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

THREE-POINTERS IN	AVE	3P	SPA
Darius McGhee	Liberty	90	226
Max Abmas	Oral Roberts		
Kamdyn Curfman	VMI	82	204
Alex Hunter	Furman	78	189
Cameron Tyson	Seattle		185
Riley Miller	St. Thomas	76	183
Jason Roche	The Citadel	73	179
Tevin Brown	Murray Stat	e72	179
Antoine Davis	Det Mercy	71	184
Collin Gillespie	Villanova	69	160
Jaden Shackelford	Alabama	69	185
Jalen Cone	N. Arizona	68	162
Chase Johnston	Stetson	68	168
Jordan Walker	UAB	68	165
Adrian Delph	Appal. St.	67	168
Lamar Norman	W Michigan	67	180
Will Carius	W Illinois	66	171
Tavian Dunn-Martin	FGCU	66	177
Tray Hollowell	Morehd St	66	162
Drake Jeffries	Wyoming		137
Demaree King	Jcksnvlle St	66	135
Kaiden Rice	Georgetown	66	163
Kyle Foster	Howard	65	130
Jordan King	ETSU	65	156
George Papas through Tuesday	Monmouth	65	176

WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

1. South Carolina (20-1) did not play. Next: vs. Alabama, Thursday, 2. Stanford (16-3) did not play. Next: at 3. NC State (19-3) did not play. Next: at Florida St., Thursday.

4. Louisville (19-2) did not play. Next: at Clemson, Thursday.
5. Indiana (14-3) did not play. Next: vs. 6. Michigan (19-2) did not play. Next: at Illinois, Thursday
7. Tennessee (19-2) did not play. Next: 8. Arizona (15-3) did not play. Next: vs. #19 Oregon, Friday. 9. Baylor (15-4) vs. #18 Oklahoma. Next: vs. #13 Texas, Friday.

10. UConn (13-4) at Creighton. Next: vs. 11 lowa State (19-3) beat #25 Kansas State 70-55. Next: vs. Oklahoma State, 12 Georgia Tech (18-4) did not play. Next: at #3 NC State, Monday.

13. Texas (15-4) did not play. Next: at #9 Baylor, Friday.

14. Georgia (16-4) did not play. Next: vs. Vanderbilt. Thursdav 15. LSU (18-4) did not play. Next: at 16. BYU (18-1) did not play. Next: at Portland, Thursday.

17. Maryland (15-6) did not play. Next: at Michigan State, Thursday 18. Oklahoma (18-3) at #9 Baylor. Next: vs. West Virginia, Saturday.

19. Oregon (14-5) did not play. Next: at #8 Arizona, Friday.

20. Notre Dame (17-4) did not play.

Next: vs. Virginia Tech. Thursday **21. lowa (14-5) did not play. Next:** at Wisconsin, Thursday. 22. Florida Gulf Coast (19-1) did not play. Next: at Central Ark Thursday.
23. Ohio State (16-4) did not play. Next: vs. Rutgers, Monday.

24. North Carolina (16-4) did not play. Next: at Wake Forest, Thursday 25. Kansas State (16-6) lost to #11 lowa State 70-55. Next: vs. Texas Tech

ATP OPEN SUD DE FRANCE

At Palais des Sports de Gerland, Mont-pellier. France, indoors-hard MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16 #2 Roberto Bautista Agut d. Gilles Simon, 6-4, 3-2, retired. #5 Filip Krajinovic d. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, 6-4, 7-6(2). #6 Alexander Bublik d. Pierre-Hugues Herbert, 6-3, 6-7, 6-2. MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32 Richard Gasquet d. #7 Ugo Humbert, 6-7(3), 6-4, 6-3. Mackenzie McDonald d. Ilva Ivashka. 6-3, 7-6(2). Adrian Mannarino d. Alejandro

ATP CORDOBA OPEN At Estadio Mario Alberto Kempee, Cordoba. Argentina, outdoor-Red clay MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16 Juan Ignacio Londero d. #8 Pedro Martinez, 6-3, 7-6(3 Daniel Elahi Galan d. Jaume Munar,

Davidovich Fokina, 6-2, 6-4.

6-2, 3-6, 6-1. #1Diego Schwartzman d. Juan Pablo Ficovich, 6-3, 6-2. Nikola Milojevic d. Tomas Martin Etcheverry, 6-3, 7-6(4)

ATP TAHA OPEN MAHARASHTRA At Balewadi Stadium, Pune, India, outdoors-hardcourt MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16 #2 Lorenzo Musetti d. Aleksandar Vukic, 7-6(3), 3-6, 6-3,

Joao Sousa d. #3 Gianluca Mager, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(4). #5 Daniel Altmaier d. Radu Albot. 3-6, 6-4, 6-4. Kamil Majchrzak d. Quentin Halys. 6-3, 7-6(7).



Recently-fired Dolphins coach Brian Flores says team owner Stephen Ross offered him money to make sure the team dropped enough games in 2019 to move to the top of the draft. AP FILE

COMMENTARY

Fix is in? Suit hits NFL with 1-2 punch

Flores' allegations extend beyond racist hiring practices

By Tim Dahlberg Associated Press

The fact there is inherent racism in the NFL — at least at the top level — has never been much of a secret. A cursory glance at coaching and front office hires over the years is enough to conclude there's a reason the league has failed miserably in putting Blacks in charge of teams - and keeping them there.

There's no excuse for that, despite the half-hearted efforts of the Rooney Rule to change things. And fired Dolphins coach Brian Flores is right — not to mention extraordinarily brave — to highlight the very worst of it in a lawsuit filed this week that should shake the league to its core.

It just might cost Flores his career, which up until the time the Dolphins let him go was looking bright. He was a winner in a place where there hasn't been much winning in recent years. Yet for some reason, which Flores claims was because he was considered an "angry black man," he was canned at the end of the regular season anyway.

Whether the lawsuit goes anywhere is for lawyers to debate. Aside from a text message from Patriots coach Bill Belichick and the wild allegation John Elway and other Broncos officials went on a drunk the night before the team was supposed to interview Flores for its open job in 2019. the lawsuit filed in federal court in New York relies more on historical context than anything to make its case.

That history is important because it shows a pattern. The fact remains there's only one Black coach among 32 teams in a league where seven of 10 players are Black. That one is a little hard for even the most skilled NFL lawyers to argue away as pure happenstance.

Still, the most shocking allegation in the law suit has little - if anything - to do with race. It's unclear, in fact, why it is even in the filing to begin with, other than to show Dolphins owner Stephen Ross in the worst light possible.

Simply put, Flores said Ross wanted him to do the unimaginable in the NFL: fix games. The former coach said Ross offered him \$100,000 a loss to make sure his team dropped enough games in his rookie season in 2019 to get to the top of the draft order.

Throwing games goes to the core of the integrity of the league. If the public — and the sports bettors the NFL has embraced - aren't convinced the outcome of games hasn't been predetermined, the fate of the entire league could be in jeopardy. The burden of proof, of course, is

greater than Flores simply repeating a conversation he had on a yacht with Ross. But if enough corroborating evidence can be found, there's only one thing the NFL can do - get rid of Ross and find a new owner in Miami.

That won't get Flores his job back and neither, unfortunately, will his lawsuit. But the fact he filed it during the midst of head coaching interviews with several teams indicates he didn't expect any job offers to come his way this offseason anyway.

Indeed, Flores is taking the chance that he might end up as the Curt Flood of football. Flood challenged the reserve clause in baseball in 1969 in an attempt to become a free agent and was largely blackballed from baseball the rest of his life.

Flores had too much pride to sit back and watch coach after coach get hired when his own interviews seemed mostly for show. He had too much integrity to take money to tank games when he had spent his life trying to become a winning football coach.

His lawsuit was a stunner, throwing a spotlight on one issue, and opening a potential can of worms on another. And it couldn't have come at a worse time for the NFL, which wanted people focusing on Tom Brady's retirement and next week's Super Bowl instead of talking about racism, game fixing and a new nickname in Washington.

No, Flores may not win his lawsuit and may never coach in the NFL again. He's taking a huge chance with no guarantee what the future will bring.

To a lot of people, though, he's a big winner simply for trying.

IN BRIEF

Ovechkin to miss All-Star Game

Capitals star Alex Ovechkin will miss the NHL All-Star Game in Las Vegas on Saturday after entering the league's COVID-19 protocols Wednesday.

Ovechkin was going to play in his eighth All-Star Game. He's tied for third in the NHL with 29 goals and is fourth on the career list with 759.

"I'm sure he's extremely disappointed," Capitals coach Peter Laviolette said. "He's disappointed, first and foremost that he's not in the game tonight, and that he's not playing. ... The All-Star Game, it's a nice nod, but he's certainly one of those big figures that goes to the All-Star Game.

"It was well-deserved this year, the nod, and I'm sure that he's upset with that."

Ovechkin will be replaced on the Metropolitan Division roster by his teammate, forward Tom Wilson, who'll be in his first All-Star Game.

Capitals center Evgeny Kuznetsov is in his second All-Star Game.

Colleges: Jim Harbaugh told Michigan he will be returning to his alma mater to coach next season, ESPN reported. Harbaugh, who has led the Wolverines since 2015, interviewed for the Vikings job Wednesday. The 58-year-old was a head coach in the NFL from 2011-14 with the 49ers. ... Arizona State associate head coach and defensive coordinator Antonio Pierce resigned to pursue NFL opportunities, becoming the fifth assistant to depart the program in the wake of an NCAA investigation into possible recruiting violations. Offensive coordinator Zak Hill stepped down recently, and last week WRs coach Prentice Gill and DBs coach Chris Hawkins were fired for cause

and TEs coach Adam Breneman resigned. All three were placed on administrative leave prior to last season in the wake of an investigation into Arizona State's hosting of recruits on campus during an NCAA-mandated COVID-19 dead period, among other possible infractions. Pierce, who spearheaded recruiting under coach Herm Edwards, was restricted from recruiting on the road prior to the early signing period in December. ... The America East announced that Stony Brook is ineligible for conference postseason tournaments because it's leaving for the Colonial Athletic Association next year. In the America East bylaws, a member institution's intention to withdraw from the conference makes that school's sports teams ineligible to compete in the league's postseason play, "on a date to be determined by the remaining members of the Board of Presidents." Stony Brook's teams, including the second-place men's basketball team and first-place women's basketball team, will need to receive at-large bids to compete in any NCAA tournaments this year.

Soccer: The Washington Spirit signed Trinity Rodman to the richest contract in the history of the National Women's Soccer League. The extension with the 19-year-old daughter of NBA great Dennis Rodman is worth at least \$1.1 million over four years, according to the Washington Post. Rodman was the No. 2 overall pick in the 2021 NWSL draft by the Spirit, which went on to win the league championship. She scored seven goals and had seven assists, and was named the league's rookie of the year. Rodman's deal runs through the 2024 season with a team option for 2025 that will be activated the first time she plays in a match for the Spirit this season.

SPORTS

UP NEXT

UConn MBB: at Villanova, Saturday, noon; Marquette (XL), Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.; at Xavier, Feb. 11, 7 p.m.

UConn WBB: Butler (Gampel), Friday, 7 p.m.; Tennessee (XL), Sunday, noon; Villanova (XL), Wednesday, 7 p.m. Celtics: at Pistons, Friday, 7 p.m.; at Magic, Sunday, 6 p.m.; at Nets, Tuesday,

7:30 p.m. Knicks: at Lakers, Saturday, 8:30 p.m.; at Jazz, Monday, 9 p.m.; at Nuggets, Tuesday, 9 p.m. Nets: at Jazz, Friday, 9 p.m.; at Nuggets, Sunday, 3:30 p.m.; Celtics,

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. **UConn hockey:** Providence, Friday, 7 p.m.; at New Hampshire, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; at Merrimack, Tuesday,

7 p.m. Bruins: Penguins, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Hurricanes, Feb. 10, 7 p.m.; at Senators, Feb. 12,

Rangers: Bruins, Feb. 15, 7 p.m.; Red Wings, Feb. 17, 7 p.m.; at Senators, Feb. 20.5 p.m.

Wolf Pack: at Springfield, Friday, 7 p.m.; Lehigh Valley, Saturday, 5 p.m.; Springfield, Feb. 11, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO **BASKETBALL**

3 p.m.: Sunrise Christian (KS) at Bishop Walsh (MD). (Live) ESPNU 5 p.m.: La Lumiere (IN) at IMG Academy (FL). (Live) **ESPNU**

6 p.m.: Women's College: Florida State at NC State. (Live) ACC

6 p.m.: Drexel at Delaware. (Live) CBSSN **6 p.m.:** Georgetown at St. John's. (Live) FS1 7 p.m.: Women's College: Ole Miss at Missouri. (Live) SEC

7 p.m.: Memphis at Cincinnati. (Live) ESPN2 7 p.m.: North Carolina A&T at Winthrop. (Live) **ESPNU**

7:30 p.m.: Bulls at Raptors. (Live) SPRTNET 7:30 p.m.: Suns at Hawks. (Live) TNT

8 p.m.: Women's College: Virginia Tech at Notre Dame. (Live) ACC 8 p.m.: Marshall at Old Dominion. (Live) CBSSN 8 p.m.: UCLA at Arizona. (Live) ESPN

8 p.m.: Iowa at Ohio State. (Live) FS1 9 p.m.: Women's College: Arkansas at Texas A&M. (Live) SEC 9 p.m.: Gonzaga at San

Diego. (Live) ESPN2 9 p.m.: Oregon State at Utah. (Live) ESPNU 10 p.m.: San Francisco at BYU. (Live) CBSSN **10 p.m.:** Women's College: Stanford at UCLA. (Live) ESPN 10 p.m.: Oregon at Colorado. (Live) FS1 10 p.m.: Lakers at Clippers. (Live) TNT 11 p.m.: USC at Arizona State. (Live) ESPN2 11 p.m.: Hawaii at UC . Riverside. (Live)

FOOTBALL 12:30 p.m., 3 p.m.: Reese's Senior Bowl Practice. (Live) ESPNU,

ESPNU

FSPN2 8 p.m.: East-West Shrine Game. (Live) NFL **GOLF**

3 p.m.: AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, First Round. (Live) GOLF 3 a.m.: Asian Tour Golf PIF Saudi International.

Second Round. (Live) **GOLF OLYMPICS** 6:45 a.m.: Freestyle Skiing. (Live) USA **8:10 a.m.:** Women's

Hockey - Finland vs U.S. (Live) USA 10:30 a.m.: Mixed Doubles Curling - Norway

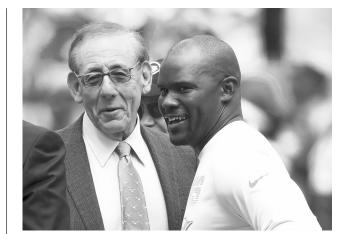
vs Canada. (Same-day Tape) USA 7:30 p.m.: Mixed Doubles Curling - Canada

vs Switzerland. (Live) 8 p.m.: Freestyle Skiing,

Figure Skating. (Live) NBC 9:30 p.m.: Mixed

Doubles Curling - Italy vs Norway. (Same-day Tape) USA 11:10 p.m.: Women's Hockey - ROC vs Switzerland. (Live) USA **12:35 a.m. Fri.:** Figure Skating. (Live) NBC 1:30 a.m. Fri.: Mixed Doubles Curling - Sweden vs U.S. (Live)

USA



Brian Flores, right, said Dolphins owner Stephen Ross told him he would monetize losses to obtain high draft picks. AP FILE

Flores calls his interview with Giants 'humiliating'

By Dennis Young New York Daily News

NEW YORK - In a series of interviews Wednesday morning, former Dolphins coach Brian Flores called his interview with the Giants "humiliating" and reiterated his account that Miami owner Stephen Ross offered to pay him to lose games.

At the core of Flores' lawsuit is a fat-thumbed Bill Belichick. Both Flores and new Giants head coach Brian Daboll were Belichick assistants, and Belichick accidentally texted Flores congratulating him on getting the New York job. He meant to text Daboll, and the text went to Flores before he even interviewed with the Giants.

"I was upset that I wasn't getting a true opportunity," Flores said on ESPN. "That text confirmed what a lot of us Black, minority coaches already believe — that we're going into these, and they're shams."

"It was a range of emotions," the coach said in a CBS interview. "Humiliation, disbelief, anger. I worked so hard to get to where I am in football, to become a head coach."

Flores and his lawyers have variously called interviews with the Giants and Broncos a "sham" and a "setup," but the underlying point is the same: The teams have already selected a white candidate and are just sleepwalking through interviewing a Black candidate to follow the NFL's Rooney Rule.

The Giants denied on Tuesday that Flores' interview was a box-checking exercise.

"We are pleased and confident with the process that resulted in the hiring of Brian Daboll," the team said in a statement. "We interviewed an impressive and diverse group of candidates. The fact of the matter is, Brian Flores was in the conversation to be our head coach until the eleventh hour. Ultimately, we hired the individual we felt was most qualified to be our next head coach."

Tanking allegations

Another claim made in the suit is that Dolphins owner Stephen Ross ultimately soured on Flores when he refused his offer of \$100,000 per loss when the Miami front office was

attempting to tank in 2019.

One of Flores' lawyers, Douglas Wigdor, said in a CNN interview that there is "corroborating evidence" of the tank bribe.

"That was a conversation about not doing as much as we needed to win football games," Flores said on ESPN. 'Take a flight, go on vacation, I'll give you \$100,000 to lose: Those were his exact words."

"To attack the integrity of the game, that's what I felt was happening in that instance, and I wouldn't stand for it," Flores told CBS. "I think it hurt my standing within the organization and, ultimately was the reason why I was let go."

The Dolphins denied Flores' account of the tank-

ing bribe.
"The implication that we acted in a manner inconsistent with the integrity of the game is incorrect," the team said in a statement Tuesday.

Flores and his lawyers are seeking to turn the lawsuit into a class-action representing other Black coaches. At least one other Black coach strongly implied after the Flores news that he had also been paid to lose games. Former Browns coach Hue Jackson, who had a 1-31 stretch in Cleveland, said he was paid a "good number" per loss by owner Jimmy Haslam.

"I stand with Brian Flores," Jackson tweeted Wednesday morning. "I can back up every word I'm

Fallout in Denver

Flores' suit says that the most egregious interview came with the Broncos, when GM John Elway and team president Joe Ellis showed up hungover and late. Elway and Ellis "looked completely disheveled, and it was obvious that they had drinking heavily the night before," according to the

The Broncos denied that on Tuesday, calling Flores' account "blatantly false."

Flores stood by it Wednesday morning, saying the Broncos interview was the only one of nine NFL interviews he's done where anvone was late. "When you sit at a table with five people who are interviewing you, you can tell who's asking questions, who's into the interview and who's not necessarily in the right state, I would say, in that moment," he said during his ESPN appearance.

REGIONAL DIGEST

State native out of Olympics

American snowboardcross rider Alex Deibold withdrew from the Beijing Olympics following a head injury he suffered at a World Cup race last weekend in Italy. A onetime wax technician, Deibold earned a bronze medal at the 2014 Sochi Olympics in snowboardcross.

"While I'm grateful to know I'll have a full recovery in the long run, I am obviously heartbroken to miss the Games," the 35-year-old who grew up in Branford Deibold said in a statement Wednesday. Added snowboardcross coach Peter Foley, "Alex is a huge asset to the team and always a big event medal contender, so it's incredibly disappointing he won't be able to compete."

Deibold has been a member of the U.S. snowboard team since 2004. He has recorded six top-three finishes at World Cup races in his career. One of Deibold's most memorable races resulted in a bronze in Sochi, when he finished behind Pierre Vaultier of France and Nikolay Olyunin of Russia.

Pulisic benched for Cup qualifier

Christian Pulisic was benched as U.S. coach Gregg Berhalter changed seven starters for Wednesday night's World Cup qualifier against Honduras in chilly St. Paul, where the temperature at kickoff was forecast for 3-4 degrees (minus-16 Celsius). A wind chill of about minus-14 was predicted.

The previous low for a U.S. home game was 29 degrees (minus-2 Celsius) for the "Guerra Fria" win over Mexico at old Columbus Crew Stadium in February 2001, the Snow Clasico victory over Costa Rica at Commerce City, Colorado, in March 2013 and the 1-0 win over El Salvador at lower.com Field in Columbus last Thursday.

Staff reports

WNBA

All-Star guard Williams returns to Sun as team eyes franchise-first title

By Alexa Philippou Hartford Courant

The Connecticut Sun announced Wednesday that WNBA All-Star and fan favorite Courtney Williams will be returning to the franchise after spending the last two seasons in Atlanta.

According to Richard Cohen of Her Hoop Stats, Williams has signed a one-year, fully protected deal with Connecticut worth

'I'm super excited to be coming back home," Williams said in a statement. "My Connecticut family has supported me since Day 1, so to be going back to all that love is everything for me!"

Williams, who played with the Sun from 2016-19, was part of Connecticut's core group of young players that Miller ultimately developed into title contenders. The 2019 Sun, which also included 2021 MVP Jonquel Jones, fell in Game 5 of the WNBA Finals to the Washington Mystics. It was their first championship appearance since 2005.

Miller told reporters Thursday that the Sun's veterans, especially Jones, advocated for the franchise to bring Williams back.

"They wanted her back, they recruited her back," Miller said. "They had a special bond and uniqueness, their sisterhood, that culture that we had while she was here was really, really special.

"And so when JJ, the best player in the world coming off her MVP season, is advocating 'that's who we need' and is talking to Courtney - and you could see that happening at the [WNBA] All-Star Game. There's talk that those two wanted to play together again in their WNBA career. Fortunately, it's worked out quickly."

"Courtney has always been a part of us," Jonquel Jones said in a statement. "She was instrumental in our run in 2019 and when she left it was sad to see her go. Knowing that we had an opportunity to get her back meant a lot and for us it just feels like a family member has finally come back home!"

The Atlanta Dream suspended Williams in November and later declined to re-sign her during free agency after she released footage of herself and a teammate involved in an altercation outside a club. Things also didn't end on the best of terms when Williams initially left Connecticut in 2020.

But beyond her closeness and familiarity with the team, the 5-foot-8 guard offers exactly what the Sun weren't ever really able to replace once she left: a dynamic guard who can create for herself on offense and hit from deep. Miller also pointed to her defensive rebounding prowess as something that can help the Sun's transition game, and that she can be another late-game closer alongside the likes of Jones.

Miller did not share specifics on his dialogue with Williams about her off-court history but said he had "great conversations" with her during free agency.

"We vetted and we talked to Courtney about expectations from our franchise, expectations on what it means to be a Connecticut Sun and come back into our culture and come back with us," Miller said.

On the Sun's 2019 squad, Williams averaged 13.2 points per game (second best on the team) on 43.5% shooting from the field (45.7% from 3), while also bringing in 5.6 rebounds and 3.8 assists per game. During her All-Star season in Atlanta last year, she led the Dream in scoring (16.5), rebounds (6.8) and assists (4.0).

"I love coaching Courtney," Miller said. "She's easy to coach, she loves the game, she's passionate about the game. You want to talk about a player that shows up in practice and wants to play ... she just loves this game. That's contagious, and our fanbase, the media, everybody sees it on game day."

Since Williams departed for Atlanta, the Sun made the semifinals in consecutive years. In bringing her back to the squad, which now includes DeWanna Bonner (a 2020 acquisition), a better-than-ever Jonquel Jones, a burgeoning Brionna Jones and a hungry Alyssa Thomas, the Sun hope Williams can re-create some of that 2019 magic and help them finally get across the finish line in bringing home the franchise's

"We're clearly in a window to compete," Miller said. "Since 2017, the Connecticut Sun have won the most regular season games... And we've yet to win a championship. So we're going to keep scratching and clawing until we try to bring the first championship to Connecticut."

Other free agency moves

Sun free agent guard Briann January signed with the Seattle Storm on Wednesday and announced it'll be her final season in the league. The Spokane native started all 29 games she appeared in with Connecticut in 2021, averaging 7.0 points and 3.1 assists. She has played in the WNBA playoffs in 12 of her 13 years in league, netting 10.2 points, 3.8 assists and 1.0 steals per game in 62 postseason games.

The Storm also announced the re-signing of 2018 WNBA MVP and UConn great Breanna Stewart, who has reportedly signed a one-year deal at the supermax with the franchise.

The Sun also announced Wednesday that Taj Cole and Joyner Holmes have been signed to training camp contracts.



Huskies

from Page 1

killed the momentum.

While UConn's defense was solid, the rebounding margin was the story of the first half. The Huskies are ranked in the top 10 in nearly every team rebounding stat but found themselves outrebounded 27-16 at the half and trailing by 10. They improved in the second half but never led by more than

Offensive struggles and slow starts have been issues throughout the season. Though the Huskies found ways to win more times than not, on Tuesday, it was their downfall. Here are the top takeaways.

UConn's bench failed to show up

Even though Hurley has talked about the program's strength is its depth, his bench has been inconsistent. On Tuesday, the reserves failed to make a real impact again. The bench had a grand total of two points on 0-for-8 shooting from the field. Besides forward Tyler Polley, not a single backup played more than seven

On a night where the starters besides Whaley struggled on offense, it's curious why guys like Akok Akok and Jordan Hawkins didn't get more play. Yes, Hawkins didn't look great in any of the three shots he took, and Akok has his own share of defensive issues, but these are supposed to be the Huskies' sharpshooters from beyond the arc. If they could have gotten anything going from 3 it could have been the difference in the game. If Hurley doesn't trust these guys, it could be a major

"(The bench guys) have to do things across the board daily to give you the confidence and give us the confidence to play you out there," he said. "I've got to get this bench going."

UConn's leading scorers struggled

The Huskies are one of the few teams in the country with three players (Cole, Adama Sanogo and Tyrese Martin) averaging 13-plus points a game. Against Creighton, they combined for 28 points on 10-for-35 (28.6%) shooting.

Each had an issue. Martin was forced into taking tough fadeaway jumpers, Cole couldn't get into a rhythm shooting-wise, and Sanogo had trouble dealing with Creighton's tough, physical defense. The Huskies can afford for one or two of them to not show up, but the team lacks the supporting cast for all three to play poorly and still win. Sanogo, in particular, has strug-

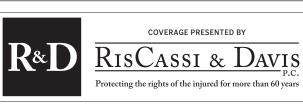
gled as of late. "He's got to focus more on the fundamentals and technique," Hurley said. "He's got to continue to be coachable and be more fundamentally sound."

Whaley finding confidence in his shot

Whaley was the only bright spot in a game filled with negatives. Not only did he finish with a career-high, but he went 4 of 8 from 3. Typically he's more of a defensive player, he was left open and made them pay. He also grabbed six rebounds, three of which were offensive. Although he's not ever going to be UConn's go-to scorer, this was an opportunity for Whaley to get reps in and add the 3-point shot to his repertoire.

"It felt good," Whaley said. "The coaches have been telling me to shoot it over and over and over. A lot of times, I get in my head, I hesitate a lot. Whenever I don't hesitate, good things happen."







Kentucky linebacker Marquez Bembry (42) has transferred to UConn. ROGELIO V. SOLIS/AP

Recruiting

from Page 1

ing the locker room," Mora said. "We needed to add some talent, competitiveness, some maturity. ... He's got the intangibles."

Mora has put emphasis on filling the quarterback room. Huskies freshman Tyler Phommachanh, recovering from a torn ACL, and redshirt junior Steven Krajewski, who took most of the snaps in 2021, will be back. They'll be joined by the experienced Roberson and Zion Turner, a highly decorated high school quarterback from St. Thomas Aquinas in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Cale Millen, the son of former NFL quarterback Hugh Millen, is also expected to sign as a transfer from Northern Arizona.

Mora's checklist for quarterbacks is based on his time in the NFL, learning from Bill Walsh, Mike Holmgren and Steve Mariucci.

"No. 1 is leadership ability," Mora said. "Leadership is not words, it's action. They are all leaders, and you see it in their actions and the way people react to them. You have to be a great decision maker. The most valuable asset out there is that ball. You have to know when to concede a play, take a sack. You have to have accuracy as a quarterback. These guys are all in difference stages of their development as far as accuracy, but we all believe they will be accurate passers as their footwork improves. Another thing is mobility, I don't mean to be a runner but to be able to move in the pocket, make plays with your legs and your arm. And then arm strength."

Phommachanh, from Stratford and Avon Old Farms, had three promising games before going down with a knee injury. Mora said his recovery is going well, and he is hopeful of having him ready for summer practices.

In Turner, Mora saw the "it" factor he seeks when he visited St. Thomas Aquinas High. Turner led his team to three state championships and a 37-2 record in his starts.

In his life as a football player at quarterback, he's lost five games," Mora said. "We went back and counted on his home visit. His personality is infectious. Some great players at that school, and they all just percolate right around him and that's what you want."

Mora doesn't consider himself a believer in the two-quarterback approach, but he's open to it. What he will have is some intense competition for snaps.

"You need to have consistency," he said. "In an ideal world, you want one guy."

Mora plans to start spring practices on March 21. The spring game, a blue-white scrimmage, will take place on April 22, likely on campus.

Here are the rest of the UConn signees from national signing day:

Cam Edwards: A 5-foot-10, 181-pounder from Norwalk High, Edwards is one of the top high school players in Connecticut. "I think he's a dynamic player," Mora said. "I watched him a lot. We're going to start him at safety. I think he's got unique ball skills, savvy, just a great attitude. Some guys just jump out at you and you get a certain feeling about them."

Prince Samuels: Samuels (6-3, 205) played both side of the ball for Windsor High. "He's playing basketball right now," Mora said. "Once the season's over, he'll get in an intensive weight training program. He has not played a lot of football in his life, but he's got length, he's got athleticism and he's got a great attitude and personality. He loves to go against the best every day. We're going to start him out. We're going to start him out at linebacker. You may see him playing some H-back, you may see him develop into an defensive end. All I know about this kid is, he's a hell of an athlete."

Tres Barboza: Barboza is a 6-4, 310-pound junior lineman who is transferring from Texas El Paso. "He fits in well, he works hard and has the right attitude," Mora said. "It's important to him to do things the right way."

Marquez Bembry: A 6-3, 242-pound linebacker, Bembry is graduate student transfer from Kentucky. "He projects for us as an outside linebacker," Mora said. "He's got strong hands. He's violent at the point of attack. He's got great feet. He can rush the passer if you get him matched up on a back. Great leadership qualities."

Isaiah Davis: Davis is a 6-1, 190 defensive back from Creekside High in Georgia. "Isaiah, we're going to start him on defense," Mora said. "The thing that caught my eye was his ability to track and make a play on the ball."

Nigel Fitzgerald: Fitzgerald, a 6-3, 210 wide receiver, is a graduate transfer from Old Dominion. "We felt we needed to add some experience in the receiver room," Mora said. "He's got strong hands, he can run, he's athletic."

Jake Guidone: The 6-3, 300-pound offensive lineman is a graduate transfer from Dartmouth. "He's a man, understands how to take care of his business," Mora said. "He has aspirations to go to the league, and he's got the skill set. It's my prediction he will be an NFL center."

Matt Hoffman: Hoffman is a 6-4 defensive lineman from Cheltenham High School (Pa.). "He's got some developing to do, but we think potentially he's going to be a 270, 275-pound guy who can wreak havoc on the edge," Mora

Will Knight: The 5-8, 213-pound running back transfer has played for Old Dominion, Delaware and Garden City Community College (Kan.). "Explosive running back." Mora said. "He's bounced around a little bit, but I believe he's found a home here. He's not tall, but he's big, he's thick, powerful."

Sokoya McDuffie: The 6-5. 310-pound redshirt sophomore defensive lineman is transferring from Old Dominion. "We felt we needed to get bigger, more physical in the interior defensive line," Mora said. "The thing that stuck out most to me on film was the effort he put in."

Lee Molette: Molette is a 6-3 defensive back from Ravenwood High in Nashville. "He's a two-way player in high school. We'll start him out at corner," Mora said. "Tremendous ball skills."

Nikko Pohahau: Pohahau, a 6-5, 278 offensive lineman, is transferring from City College of San Francisco. "An interesting one," Mora said. "We just met him this weekend and he's already in school here. He started his career at Colorado. Tremendous young man, very serious. He's got the length you're looking for at tackle."

Tommy Zozus: The 6-1, 240 long snapper is a graduate transfer from Florida International. "He's really excited to be playing in some snow," Mora said. "You're looking for a long snapper who's consistent but also somebody who can run down the field on a punt and make a tackle. Tommy can do those types of things."

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com

COLLEGE FOOTBALL NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

Recruiting wars: Texas A&M's Fisher says rumors are 'garbage'

Associated Press

After Texas A&M added yet another blue-chip prospect to the highest-rated recruiting class in college football Wednesday, coach Jimbo Fisher went off about rumors that booster-funded endorsement deals were fueling the Aggies' success.

There is no \$30 million fund. There is no 10 million, there is no five million. This is garbage," Fisher said. "It pisses me off."

College football's traditional signing period opened with most of the heavy lifting having already been done in mid-December. Texas A&M came into the day with the top-rated class in the country, according to 247 Sports' composite rankings. Southeastern Conference rivals and national title game participants Alabama and Georgia were Nos. 2 and 3, respectively.

Then Shemar Stewart, one of

the most highly regarded players in Florida, picked the Aggies over Miami to give Texas A&M's class the best score the website has ever handed out. Stewart is the seventh five-star prospect in Texas A&M's 2022 class.

While no one has publicly put their name on allegations of improper recruiting by Texas A&M, internet message boards have run wild with speculation.

"To me it's insulting to the players that we recruited that that's why they would come here," Fisher told reporters. "You ever been to a game here? You ever come to school here and see the education? You ever talk about the 12th Man and the Aggie network when you're done? There ain't a better university in this country."

The former Florida State coach called out a specific Oklahoma fan message board post and a site that aggregated the post, which alleged

RisCassi & Davis

injured for more than 60 years

Protecting the rights of the

a \$30 million fund was set up to pay Aggies players for use of their names, images and likenesses. He said some in the mainstream media have perpetuated the rumors, and that rival coaches are doing the

"Clown acts," Fisher said. "Multiple coaches in our league. And the guys griping about NIL, griping about the transfer portal, are using it the most and bragging about it the most. It's a joke."

Mississippi coach Lane Kiffin on Tuesday lamented the lack of detailed rules regulating NIL payments to college athletes.

"It's basically like dealing with different salary caps," Kiffin said. "We now have a sport that has completely different salary caps and some of these schools are five- or 10 times more than everybody else of what they can pay these players. I know nobody uses those phrases but that is what it is. I joked the other day that I didn't know if Texas A&M was going to incur a luxury tax in how much they paid for their signing class."

Fisher did not name any coaches specifically, but he added: "I'll tell you what, I know how some of those guys recruit, too. Go dig into

New guys

For newly hired coaches such as USC's Lincoln Riley, Oklahoma's Brent Venables, Miami's Mario Cristobal, Florida's Bill Napier and LSU's Brian Kelly, pulling together that first recruiting class can be like trying to rally in the fourth quarter.

"You talk about coming in at the end of November with your main signing day just a few weeks away, really assembling a class that took, I think, all of our talent, patience, skill to assemble," Riley said Wednesday.



Safety Tip of the Day

Be mindful of your blind spots while driving. Visibility is key to preventing accidents on the road.

riscassi-davis.com

131 Oak Street • Hartford, Connecticut 860.522.1196 • 800.344.5297

NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Commanders name to know in DC

Washington has some new Commanders in town. The NFL team announced its new name Wednesday, 18 months after fresh pressure from sponsors helped persuade the once-storied franchise to drop its old moniker following decades of criticism that it was offensive to Native Americans. From 1932 until two seasons ago, Washington had used the name Redskins . The organization committed to avoiding Native American imagery in its rebrand after being called the Washington Football Team the last two seasons. Washington is the latest American major professional team to abandon its name linked to Native Americans, and it was considered one of the most egregious. Suzan Shown Harjo, who's Cheyenne and Hodulgee Muscogee, called the change "an amazing and a giant step in the maturation of America." The 76-year-old Harjo has been advocating for sports teams to drop Native imagery and mascots since the 1960s. While Washington and Major League Baseball's Cleveland franchise have changed their names, the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs, NHL's Chicago Blackhawks and baseball's Atlanta Braves have said they're not planning to make a change.

Shuster 1st curler to carry US flag

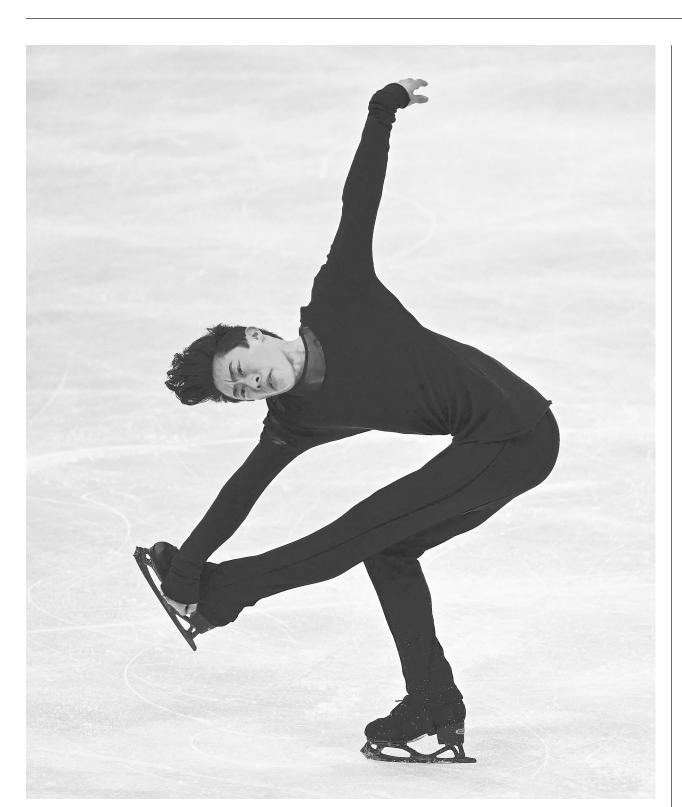


Before he throws a stone at the Beijing Games, John Shuster will become the first curler to carry the American flag in an Olympic opening ceremony. That's a big deal for a sport that's becoming more popular in the United States thanks to Shuster's Olympic exploits.

The defending gold medalist and five-time Olympian was elected by his fellow American athletes to lead the U.S. into the Bird's Nest on Friday along with Brittany Bowe. Bowe, a three-time Olympian, was the first runner-up and will walk in place of bobsledder Elana Meyers Taylor, a three-time Olympic medalist who tested positive for COVID-19 over the weekend but still hopes to compete. In a statement Wednesday, the 39-year-old Shuster, who will arrive in Beijing later this week, called it "one of the greatest honors of my sporting career." The men's curling competition starts February 9. Curling is being held at the Ice Cube, which was converted from the Water Cube, the swimming and diving venue for the 2008 Summer Games. The venue can be transformed back to a swimming pool.

Healthy McCoughtry joining Lynx

Angel McCoughtry is heading to Minnesota and Briann January is going to Seattle for her final season in the WNBA. McCoughtry spent the last two seasons in Las Vegas after playing in Atlanta since the Dream drafted her first in 2009. She missed last year while dealing with an ACL injury in her right knee, except for a token one-game appearance when the Aces played in Atlanta. In 2020, she averaged 14.4 points, 5.1 rebounds and 2.5 assists for the Aces. The 35-year-old McCoughtry, a five-time All-Star, is 15th in league history for points and third for points per game (18.7). January, who's also 35, is heading back west after spending two years in Connecticut. She earned her seventh All-WNBA defensive team nod last year. January has averaged 8.3 points, 3.5 assists, 1.0 steals, and 1.8 rebounds per game over her career, spending nine years in Indiana, two in Phoenix and the last two in Connecticut. The Sun replaced January with Courtney Williams, who starred for the team before leaving in 2020 for Atlanta. Williams, 27, led the Dream last season with a career high in points (16.5), rebounds (6.8), assists (4.0), made field goals (7.1), and minutes (34.4). Free agents could officially start signing Tuesday. –Associated Press



Nathan Chen has won three straight men's figure skating world championships and six straight U.S. titles but didn't medal at the 2018 Olympics. In Pyeongchang, he struggled in the short program and finished fifth. JONATHAN NACKSTRAND/GETTY-AFP

WINTER OLYMPICS PREVIEW FIGURE SKATING

Mettle for the moment

After letdown in '18, Chen eyes elusive gold in Beijing

By Dave Skretta **Associated Press**

Nathan Chen has accomplished just about everything that one can accomplish in the sport of figure skating.

Six consecutive national championships, the most since two-time Olympic champion Dick Button in the 1940s and '50s.

Three consecutive world championships, the best run by an American since Scott Hamilton in the early '80s.

Nearly four years with only a single defeat, a run that includes three consecutive wins at the Grand Prix

The only thing he's yet to accomplish? Olympic gold.

The 22-year-old Chen blew his chance four years ago in Pyeongchang, when an unusually poor short program cost him a chance at a medal; he rallied to finish fifth. But he's about to get another shot in Beijing, when Chen goes toe-to-toe with two-time defending gold medalist Yuzuru Hanyu and a stacked field at historic Capital Indoor

"Every season my goal is to keep improving," Chen said after shattering his personal-best score at nationals last month. "I'm looking forward to going back and working on whatever goals I have for the Games. I'm just enjoying this moment."

The showdown between Chen and Hanyu will be the highlight of the entire Olympic program.

The American comes armed with

an array of quadruple jumps that rival anyone in the world, while his artistry takes him beyond being just an athlete to being a bona fide performer. The biggest question surrounding Chen is what programs he'll unveil in Beijing the programs he used with mixed results earlier in the season or the programs he used at nationals, a short to "La Boheme" and an Elton John medley for his free skate that he used during the 2019-20 season.

"I'm really happy with these programs," Chen said, giving credit to choreographer Shae-Lynn Bourne, "and that's why it's awesome to be able to have such amazing choreographers consistently deliver great programs for me, so it's easy to be able to go back and look through all the work she's done

Hanyu withdrew from both of his Grand Prix assignments because an injured right ankle, but he dazzled last month in winning the Japanese championship. His key to victory could rest in becoming the first skater ever to land the quadruple axel — a jump that involves 4 ½ rotations that he has landed in practice.

"Beijing is an extension of everything I'm doing," Hanyu said, "and I know I just might have to go all in

Others to watch in the men's competition include Shoma Uno, the reigning Olympic silver medalist who won the NHK Trophy last fall; Vincent Zhou, the American who beat Chen at Skate America and was second to Uno at the NHK Trophy; and the Russian star Mikhail Kolyada, who finished second at his two Grand Prix assignments this season.

Women's competition

It's almost a foregone conclusion that the gold medal will be headed to Russia for a third straight Winter Games. The only real question is whether it will be around the neck of world record-holder Kamila Valieva or one of her teammates. Valieva's score of 272.71 points at Rostelecom Cup was more than 35 points higher than anyone else. The Russians' biggest competition will come from Japan's Kaori Sakamoto.

Pairs competition

The U.S. only qualified one pairs for the 2018 Winter Games: Alexa Knierim and Chris Knierim. The Americans have in Beijing, and one of them is Alexa Knierim and new partner **Brandon** Frazier; they teamed up after Chris Knierim's retirement. The other is Ashley Cain-Gribble and Timothy **LeDuc**, the first non-binary Olympic athlete. They're unlikely to compete for medals, though. Evgenia Tarasova and Vladimir Morozov of Russia are the heavy favorites, while reigning silver medalists Sui Wenjing and Han Cong give host China its best shot at the podium.

Dance competition

Madison Hubbell and Zachary Donohue lead a trio of American ice dance teams in Beijing, and all have a chance to medal. Madison Chock and Evan Bates beat Hubbell and Donohue at nationals, while Kaitlin Hawayak and Jean-Luc Baker train at the same school in Montreal as them.

SUPER BOWL 56 ANALYSIS

Bengals not afraid to rely on a rally

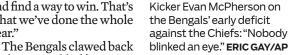
By Mitch Stacy | Associated Press

CINCINNATI — When the Bengals went down 21-3 early in the second quarter of Sunday's AFC championship game, a third straight Super Bowl for the Chiefs seemed

The Bengals weren't feeling it, though. They'd been coming from behind and winning close games all season. What transpired was another incredible Bengals finish, this one propelling them to the Super Bowl for the first time since the 1988 season.

In the first half, Patrick Mahomes tossed three touchdown passes, and the Bengals went to the locker room at halftime down

"Nobody blinked an eye," Bengals kicker Evan McPherson said. "We all thought that we were definitely going to come back and find a way to win. That's what we've done the whole



in the second half, scoring 14 unanswered points and holding the Chiefs to just Harrison Butker's field goal as time ran out to tie the score at 24 and force overtime.

After Bengals safety Vonn Bell intercepted Mahomes in overtime, quarterback Joe Burrow put McPherson in position for the 31-yard field goal, the rookie kicker's second game-winner in as many playoff games.

Who expected this?

Burrow was coming off major offseason knee surgery. The Bengals were just 7-6 after Week 14. They finally managed to win three in a row in December, a streak that coincided with the late-season struggles of the Browns and Ravens. The Bengals won the AFC North with a

Burrow and wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase, the No. 5 overall pick in the 2021 draft, emerged as a reliable and resilient tandem. A defense that had been up and down got the job done with sacks and critical interceptions in the past two playoff games.

Coach Zac Taylor said the season started with many uncertainties, but it all came together at the right time.

"I certainly think that when we got to December that the feeling in the locker was we have the ability to play with anybody in this league," Taylor said Monday.

"And we all know, those of us who have been in the league a long time, you just have to get hot at the right time."

After the game, some of the players were still trying to get their heads around it.

"It's crazy, it still hasn't hit me yet," said receiver Tee Higgins, who had six catches for 103 yards. "It didn't feel real at all. It's crazy."

What's working

The Bengals seem to be able to get what they need to get when they need to get it. In the second half against the Chiefs, they needed the defense to disguise some looks and get after Mahomes, one of the league's most-elusive quarterbacks.

They needed running back Joe Mixon to break some his carries for more yards.

They needed Burrow to make some more magic, and the second-year quarterback delivered.

What needs help

The Bengals have been a slow-starting team all season. That usually causes the team to play from behind. It's exciting and hard to argue with the results when they get them, but the Bengals surely would like to be far enough ahead at the end to keep from dropping all the pressure on the shoulders of their 22-year-old kicker.

Stock up

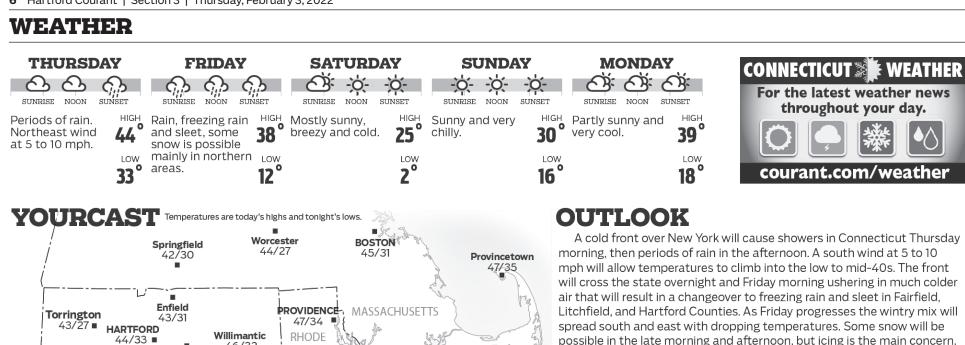
The pass protection was better after Burrow was sacked nine times in the divisional-round win over the top-seeded Titans. He was better at evading it this time, too. He was sacked just once and hit three other times. He had two third-down scrambles in the fourth quarter that moved the chains at critical times.

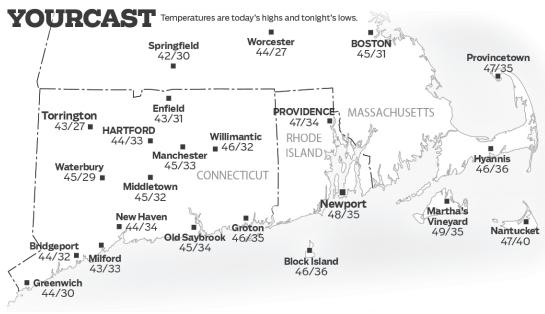
Stock down

Nobody was happier about the Bengals' success than tight end C.J. Uzomah, who has been with the team through five poor seasons. He had the best season of his career and became a sure-handed, go-to receiver for Burrow. He was carted off with a knee injury in the first

Injuries

Taylor said Monday that Uzomah has an MCL sprain and the outlook is "encouraging."







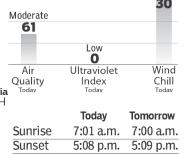
will cross the state overnight and Friday morning ushering in much colder Litchfield, and Hartford Counties. As Friday progresses the wintry mix will possible in the late morning and afternoon, but icing is the main concern. -Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches	Total	Norma
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.00	0.10
Month to date	0.00	0.21
Total this year	1.83	3.49
Snowfall In Inches		

Yesterday (by 4 p.m.) 0.0 0.5 Total this year 18.4 Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

Air Quality Forecast For Today



	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise	7:01 a.m.	7:00 a.m
Sunset	5:08 p.m.	5:09 p.m
Moonrise	8:49 a.m.	9:13 a.m
Moonset	8:07 p.m.	9:15 p.m

	Moon	Phase	
First Feb 8	Full Feb 16	Last Feb 23	New Mar 2

Sydney

Tel Aviv

Toronto

Warsaw

Vancouver

Tokyo

75 63 SH

67 50 PC

52 34 PC

41 40 R

34 30 SF

28 7 SN

0.6 0.5 0.4 0.3 0.2 0.1 0.0	1/16	1/23	1/30
Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	10:44 a.m.	4:49 a.m.	37°
	11:13 p.m.	5:23 p.m.	
Saybrook Jetty	11:55 a.m.	5:42 a.m.	35°
	p.m.	6:16 p.m.	
Connecticut River	2:14 a.m.	9:28 a.m.	
at Portland	2:38 p.m.	10:02 p.m.	,
Madison	12:00 a.m.	6:05 a.m.	34°
	12:19 p.m.	6:34 p.m.	
New Haven	12:20 a.m.	6:29 a.m.	33°
	12:39 p.m.	6:58 p.m.	
Stamford	12:24 a.m.	6:43 a.m.	35°
	12:43 p.m.	7:12 p.m.	

30-day Precipitation History In Inches

Boating	L.I. Sound W	L.I. Sound E	B. I. Sound
Weather	Rain	Showers	Showers

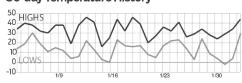
River Stage at Hartford: 3.72 feet at 7:15 p.m.

Rain	Showers	Showers
S, 5-10	SW, 5-10	SW, 5-10
1 ft.	2-3 ft.	3-4 ft.
	S, 5-10	S, 5-10 SW, 5-10

remperature	піgп	LOW
Wednesday	44 at 3:52 p.m	29 at 7:09 a.m
Normal for date	36	19
Record for date	54 in 1981	-21 in 1961
A year ago	34	30
Range this year	52	-2

Last **Heating Degree Days** Season Normal Season For July 1 - Feb 2 3128 3422 3139

30-day Temperature History



	Atmosphere	High	Low
	Barometer	30.52 at 12 a.m.	30.36 at 5 p.m
	Dew point	35° at 4 p.m.	21° at 12 a.m

KEY: S Sunny, C Cloudy, PC Partly Cloudy, R Rain, SH Showers, SN Snow, SF Snow Flurries, T T-storms 54 41 SH Atlantic City

TUESDAY'S LATE HIGH

Baltimore

Bismarck

Boise

Buffalo

Charleston

Cincinnati

Cleveland

Indianapolis

Jacksonville

Miami Beach

Las Vegas

Milwaukee

53 35

14 -2 PC

33 18 PC

27 13 SN

74 61 PC

26 14 SN

23 10 SN

78 59 PC

55 37 S

77 72 PC

22 8 C

31 16

SCHOOL RESULTS BOYS BASKETBALL

CCC-South

NEW ENGLAND

41 14

35 11 SN

31 4 SN

42 26 SH

34 12 SN

28 13 SN

45 19 SH

46 34 C

27 10 PC

Bangor

Caribou

Concord

Montpelier

Mt. Wash.

Woods Hole

NATION

Portland

Burlington

MALONEY 42. BRISTOL EASTERN 41 MALONEY (3-8): Tylee Flowers 3-0-6, Donte Kelly 2-1-5, Tijion Johnson 2-2-7, Marquis Ward 2-0-4, Ja'vony De'Leon 3-1-7, Tadrique Jones

6-1-13. Totals 18-5-42. BRISTOL EASTERN (3-10): Nasir Walker-Jenkins 1-4-7, Jeremiah Tatum 1-0-2, Lukas Sward 1-0-2, Dante DePass 2-0-4, Ben D'Amato 1-0-3, Brayden Dauphinais 6-0-14, Nate Fries 0-3-3, Isaiah Lawrence-Bynum 3-0-6. Totals 15-7-41

8 14 12 8 - 42 18 6 6 11 - 41

Note: With 1.3seconds on the clock, De'Leon lobbed a full court pass that was tipped by BE and caught by Jones, who scored a lay-up at the buzzer to win.

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 52, CONARD 43
NORTHWEST CATHOLIC (11-1): Matt Curtis 9-3-22, Badara Diakite 5-3-13, Hayden Abdullah 4-0-8, Gianni Mirabello 3-0-6, London Jemison 0-1-1, Jehyric Spencer 0-2-2. Totals 21-9-52. CONARD (10-2): Riley Fox 8-2-25, Jalen Hamblin 4-1-9, Ryan Bushnell 2-0-4, Mike Weiss 1-0-2, Declan McCann 0-0-0, Jackson Morhardt 1-0-3.

Totals 16-3-43. 7 16 17 12 - 52 10 14 6 13 - 43 NWC

FARMINGTON 42, SIMSBURY 37 FARMINGTON (10-4): Jordan Anthony 2-4-9, Jahkai Veal 1-1-3, Chad Rizzo 4-1-11, Jared Young 1-0-2, Nick Duncan 5-7-17. Totals 13-13-

SIMSBURY (11-3): Aidan Riordan 1-1-3, Keenan Willison 3-1-7, Chris Kokines 7-3-18, Alex Pepper 0-0-0, Nate Beizer 3-0-9. Totals 14-5-37.

11 11 11 9 - 42 8 12 9 8 - 37

NCCC

WINDSOR LOCKS 57, SOMERS 53 SOMERS (9-3): John Zapolski 2-0-5, Thomas Lafayette 1-1-3, Troy Maia 2-1-5, Braden Davis 1-0-3, Colby McCormick 1-1-4, Cody Palazzesi 11-5-30, Sean Crocken 1-0-3. Totals 19-8-53. WINDSOR LOCKS (6-6): Jaydon Buckle 8-10-28, Jaheime Thomas 4-2-12, Chris Vega 1-0-2, Austin Smith 3-0-7, Malike Alassani 0-1-1, Kyle Hinckley 3-0-7. Totals 19-13-57.

18 13 15 7 - 53 15 14 10 18 - 57

SUFFIELD 56, STAFFORD 48 STAFFORD (8-3): Tom Balanceau 4-0-9, Logan Briggs 2-0-4, Isaac Minaya 6-2-14, Mark McLaughlin 2-2-6, Zach Donovan 5-0-13, Colin Gudeman 1-0-2. Totals 20-4-48. SUFFIELD (9-5): Ryan Levis 7-5-22, Nick Van Cott 3-1-10, Jack Pixton 3-0-7, Michael Coggins 3-4-10, Nick Sattan 3-1-7. Totals 19-11-56.

10 14 7 17 - 48 12 10 16 18 - 56

COVENTRY 62, ROCKVILLE 55 ROCKVILLE (6-8): Weston LaBrecque 2-2-6, Jayden Tate 9-1-23, Cam Washington 1-0-2, Dylan Resendes 3-3-10, John Ryan 3-3-10, Eric Monte Jr. 2-0-4. Totals 19-9-55. COVENTRY (6-7): Aiden Jeamel 5-3-14, Aidan Hecht 1-0-3, AJ Rooks 2-0-6, Vinny LoRicco 9-0-23, Wyatt Wendry 4-1-10, Gavin Covell 2-2-6.

22 15 9 9 - 55 15 13 18 16 - 64

CANTON 46, SMSA 42 SMSA (11-1): King Shaw 5-1-12, Nizayiah Bogar 4-1-10, Abijah Miller 1-0-2, Kemani Thompson 1-1-3, Daniel Hernandez 3-6-12, Miguel Varela

0-3-3. Totals 14-12-42. CANTON (8-6): Khalil Thomas 0-1-1, Brandon Powell 2-1-5, Matthew Benedetti 10-3-23, Isaiah Reece 5-2-14, Luke Maher 1-0-3. Totals 18-7-46.

8 5 14 15 - 42 10 11 12 13 - 46

Shoreline

Totals 23-6-62.

CROMWELL 78, HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH 44 HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH (0-13): Joe Giaccone 1-1-4, Adam Alonzo 1-0-2, Lucas Kamoen 1-0-2, Andrew Crayton 1-0-3, Tate Callendar 4-2-10, Callen Powers 8-1-21, Tyler Perry 1-0-2. Totals

CROMWELL (12-0): Gianluca Albert 5-0-13, Victor Payne 6-3-17, JJ Fehan 6-0-13, Logan Mure 2-0-4, Jake Salafia 3-1-8, Connor McMillan 1-0-3, Tyler Danielle 2-0-4, Luke Gagnon 4-0-12,

Jovan Marrero 2-0-4. Totals 31-4-78.

Salt Lake City 31 17 PC

AROUND THE WORLD Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

New Orleans

Nashville

New York

Okla. City

Omaha

Orlando

Raleigh

St. Louis

San Antonio

San Diego

Pittsburgh

13 12 13 6 - 44 30 18 24 6 - 78

46 26

51 32 SH

19 10 SF

18 5 PC

83 63 PC

65 61 SH

19 10 SN

35 19

35 24

63 46 S

75 38

San Juan

Amsterdam

Tucson

Athens

Beijing

Beirut

Berlin

Bermuda

Bangkok

Barbados

82 72

54 33 S

48 41 SH

50 39 SF

93 73 T

37 21 C

68 53 PC

45 41 SH

69 62 PC

84 71

Budapest

Cairo

Dubai

Dublin

Edinburgh

Hong Kong

Helsinki

Istanbul

Jerusalem

Cancun

Buenos Aires

CHENEY TECH 78. ELLIS TECH 39 ELLIS TECH (2-8): Caleb Evans 1-2-4, Everett

Leblanc 1-3-5, Ian Brais 3-2-10, Devin Cornell 1-0-2, Garret Lawson 5-0-10, Christine Estrada 0-2, Jules Garcia 1-0-3. Totals 13-7-36. CHENEY TECH (7-4): Kymani Thomas 5-0-12, Xavier McCall 2-1-5, Damnic Gittens 11-6-29, Omar Rios 1-1-3, Kelvin Rios 4-1-10, Justin Szrenja 1-0-2, Peyton Carpenter 3-0-7, Dazhaun Copeland 3-4-10. Totals 30-13-78.

ET CT 4 8 8 16 - 36

CRAL
ACHIEVEMENT FIRST 58, CIVIC LEADERSHIP 37 ACHIEVEMENT FIRST (6-4): Sadiki Darling 2-3-7, Deivone Tanksley 5-4-15, David Hinds 3-0-7, Rodrick Pearson 3-1-9, Davon Chambers 1-0-2, Dontey Tanksley 2-0-4, Nathan Reid 2-0-4, Jeffrey Acoff 4-2-10. Totals 23-10-58. CIVIC LEADERSHIP (2-10): Kyon McCray 0-2-2, Noah Hicks 8-1-22, Jayden Gist 1-0-2, Donovan Brown 3-0-6, Khemoni Mitchell 0-1-1, Chris Norton 1-2-4. Totals 13-6-37.

25 12 13 8 - 58 0 9 10 18 - 37 CL

LYMAN HALL 59, EAST HAVEN 51 (OT) EAST HAVEN (10-5): Shae Carson 5-1-12, Tim Case 4-0-11, Kyle Cusano 1-0-3, Theo Rawls 1-0-2, Ron Calderson 10-1-21. Ali Hassan 0-2-2. Totals 21-4-51. LYMAN HALL (3-10): Justin Hackett 3-8-15,

Brady Campbell 1-2-4, Tyler Casey 7-0-14, r Medina 7-1-18, Eli Dineen 1-0-2, Drew

Mik 2-1-6. Totals 21-12-59. 9 11 17 10 4 - 51 16 8 11 12 12 - 59

GIRLS BASKETBALL

MIDDLETOWN 51, PLAINVILLE 22

MIDDLETOWN (12-2): Shalyn Smith 4-0-9, Bryonna Bella 0-2-2, Tyah Pettaway 6-3-16, Tajahnae Brock 2-3-7, Jada Bryant 2-1-5, Shadae Bushay 3-0-6, Kaila Torres 3-0-6. Totals 20-9-51. PLAINVILLE (1-14): Lilly Wazorko 1-2-4, Elyse Brown 4-1-11, Marissa Miller 1-1-3, Cookie Montanez 1-0-2, Tamia Chapman 1-0-2. Totals

8-4-22. М 20 16 9 6 - 51 7 5 0 10 - 22

BRISTOL CENTRAL 44. PLATT 34 BRISTOL CENTRAL (6-7): Ella Watson 1-0-3, Brooke Watson 6-5-18, Kaley Laird 1-0-2, Ariana Rivera 7-2-16, Lillian Sirois 2-0-5. Totals 17-7-44. PLATT (8-7): Vianna Alcantara 1-0-2, Kaylani Cruz 1-1-3, Zaria Calloway 1-0-2, Khrystina Campbell 7-0-14, Antwanette Tann 5-3-13.

10 11 8 15 - 44 6 9 8 11 - 34 BC

BERLIN 41, LEWIS MILLS 28 LEWIS MILLS (5-9): Jordan Anderson 3-0-9, Abriana Wroblewski 1-0-2, Cassie Martinotti 0-1-1, Makayla Issakhani 1-0-2, Abby Jankoski 2-2-6, Lauren Searle 2-4-8. Totals 9-7-28. BERLIN (6-6): Jenna Wenzel 1-2-4, Janessa Yaconiello 2-0-4, Ava Desmarais 0-2-2, Rylee Cop 3-0-7, Clare McGeever 0-7-7, Emma Ellison

1-3-5, Alivia Halkias 2-1-5, Kailee DeMaio 2-3-7. LM 0 16 9 3 - 28

9 7 11 14 - 41 **MALONEY 52. BRISTOL EASTERN 49** BRISTOL EASTERN (4-7): Taigan Parent 2-0-5, Vanessa Drury 2-0-4, Ciara Collins 8-4-21, Leah

Roy 0-1-1, Janessa Gonzalez 9-0-18. Totals MALONEY (11-1): Evelyn Beltran 3-3-9, Amal Bahili 4-5-14, Gracey Massicotte 2-0-5, Nadia Berrios-Lugo 0-1-1, Jaylice Rosario 7-9-23.

Totals 16-18-52. 10 14 13 12 - 49 16 12 11 13 - 51

GLASTONBURY 44, AVON 29

AVON (4-9): Sophie Mango 2-3-7, Lindsay Arigoni 0-1-1, Erin Geary 1-1-3, Adi Standish 6-2-14. Ashley Blackmore 2-0-4. Totals 11-6-29. GLASTONBURY (9-5): Sydney Kehl 1-3-5, Kiley Feeney 2-5-9, Skylar Fiske 2-1-5, Gisel Astiasaran 3-5-11, Madison Handrahan 4-1-9, Lily

Woodworth 1-0-2, Alyssa Healey 1-0-2, Julen Astiasaran 0-1-1. Totals 14-16-44.

Kingston

64 46 PC

52 41 C

81 54 PC

52 34 SH

32 10 SN

23 18 SN

75 63 C

48 43 C

45 39 SH

66 52

59 48

32 18

Lisbon

London

Madrid

Milan

Montreal

Moscow

New Delhi

Rio de Janeiro 82 72

Nassau

Paris

Prague

Rome

Seoul

Singapore

Mexico City

45 32 PC

86 72 T

51 PC

84 75 PC

81 70 S

52 34 С

23 21 PC

61 54 SH

43 36 R

59 46 PC

8 3 11 7 - 29 8 10 14 10 - 44

SIMSBURY 46, FARMINGTON 36 SIMSBURY (12-2): Lauren Sabia 6-2-17, Olivia Jarvis 4-1-9, Amelia Rogers 1-0-2, Faye Kaplinski 4-0-8, Amanda Gallagher 3-2-10. Totals 18-5-46. FARMINGTON (11-4): Daria Fournier 3-3-9. Mackenzie Campbell 0-1-1, Emily Sanchez 2-0-4, Abby Finn 2-0-4, Sarah Bertolette 2-0-4, Avery Anderson 2-0-4, Brooke Jones 2-4-8, Abby

Bertolette 1-0-2. Totals 14-8-36. 12 11 13 10 - 46

NCCC

COVENTRY 30, ROCKVILLE 28
COVENTRY (10-3): Amy Prior 2-0-5, Natalie
Neal 2-2-6, Charlotte Jordan 2-1-5, Anaka Eaton 5-2-12, Sammy Coughlin 1-0-2. Totals 12-5-30. ROCKVILLE (3-12): Layla Tate 2-0-4, Sara Stone 2-0-4. Julia Szuminski 4-3-12. Anava Tolton 1-0-2, Chloe Keane 1-0-2, Jaidan Torres 2-0-4.

Totals 12-3-28. 8 5 6 11 - 30 7 5 8 8 - 28

SOMERS 38, WINDSOR LOCKS 35 WINDSOR LOCKS (8-5): Alana Picard 1-4-6, Angelina Jones 0-1-1, Carly MacDougald 1-1-4, Tristin Oberg 4-8-16, Gabby Sales 3-2-8. Totals

SOMERS (10-3): Sydney Cassidy 5-0-12, Deidre Dalessio 2-2-6, Devon Dalessio 4-2-11, Eliana Wood 3-0-7, Halle Watt 1-0-2. Totals 15-2-38.

6 13 7 9 - 35 7 10 9 12 - 38

HOLY CROSS 73, ST. PAUL 52

ST. PAUL (9-3): Haileigh Orzel 2-2-6, Sam Naples 2-0-4, Audrey Tice 4-0-8, Izzy Leggett 2-3-7,

Abbey Stanford 0-1-1, Nadia Reimer 2-3-8, Zoey Rubins 1-2-4, Emily Ronalter 2-1-5, Sarah Lindquist 1-0-2, Alexis Tierpack 3-1-7. Totals

HOLY CROSS (14-0): Loren Tuck 0-1-1, Shania Howard 2-0-4, Mya Zaccagnini 9-2-21, Nyasia Smith 2-4-8, Cayla Howard 8-10-26, Kristina Perry 2-0-5, Isabella Oliver 1-0-2, Rachel Healey 1-4-6. Totals 25-21-73.

12 22 5 13 - 52 21 24 13 15 - 73 SP HC

WRESTLING

RHAM 78, OLD LYME 6

BOYS SWIMMING

Others GLASTONBURY 93, AMITY 88

Note: Campbell McFall won the 200and 500free for Glastonbury. **WEDNESDAY'S HIGH**

SCHOOL RESULTS BOYS BASKETBALL

BLOOMFIELD 72, BULKELEY 50

WINDSOR LOCKS 52, HMTCA 47 WINDSOR LOCKS (7-6): Jaydon Buckle 8-8-25, Jaheime Thomas 3-1-7, Chris Vega 2-0-5, Aiden Walker 2-0-4, Austin Smith 2-0-4, Malike Alassani 1-2-4, Kyle Hinckley 1-0-3. Totals 19-11-52. HMTCA (5-11): Russell Smith 1-4-6, Derrick Sheets 2-2-7, Christian Smith 4-0-8, Eyad Anwer 8-0-16, Josh O'Neal 4-0-8, Corey Jerrick 1-0-2.

15 11 16 10 - 52 WL 21 2 10 14 - 47

CRAI

Totals 20-6-47.

UNIVERSITY 49, PARISH HILL 34 WEAVER 44, CLASSICAL 36

E.O. SMITH 39, STAFFORD 28 STAFFORD (8-4): Tom Balanceau 1-0-3. Logan Briggs 3-0-6, Isaac Minaya 3-3-9, Mark McLaughlin 3-1-7, Zach Donovan 1-0-3. Totals E.O. SMITH (6-8): Dar Jankovic 1-2-4, Peter

Elumogo 4-1-9, Jackson Stearns 7-1-16, Leon Lin

2-3-8, Noah Cardone 1-0-2. Totals 15-7-39. 9 2 7 8 - 28 7 8 13 11 - 39 **EOS**

Note: Elumogo had 16rebounds, 4blocks. WATERFORD 81, OLD LYME 46 **SOMERS 70, COGINCHAUG 33** FAIRFIELD PREP 67, CAPITAL PREP 63

WESTERN

UNIVERSITY

CONNECTICUT

Weather Center

GIRLS BASKETBALL CCC-Inter

NEW BRITAIN 50, SOUTH WINDSOR 46 BRISTOL EASTERN 59, HALL 47

BOLTON 39, EAST WINDSOR 15
EAST WINDSOR (5-9): Bailey Winner 4-0-8, Katie
Blume 0-3-3, Ally Ragaglia 1-0-2, Kristina Keyes 1-0-2. Totals 6-3-15. BOLTON (9-3): Emma Diehl 6-0-14, Niya Islam

1-0-2, Isabel Kenney 2-0-4, Julia Zimmerman 3-1-7, Makenna Graves 3-0-6, Emily DeNunzio 3-0-6. Totals 18-1-39.

EW

Shoreline WESTBROOK 41, HALE-RAY 25 HALE-RAY (0-12): Brooke Praskievicz 4-1-9. Kenzie Purdell 4-0-9, Julie Anderson 2-2-7, Jennafaye Haentjens 0-0-0, Gabby Aguilera

0-0-0 Totals 10-1-25 WESTBROOK (7-8): Jami Sacco 4-1-9, Sadie Susi 4-0-10, Alex Zanzalari 2-0-4, Adrianna Stranieri 3-0-6, Leticia Pires 4-2-10, Gianni Salisbury 1-0-2. Totals 18-3-41.

2 9 4 10 - 25 5 4 28 4 - 41 HR

CRAL

CLASSICAL 52, UNIVERSITY 28 UNIVERSITY (2-7): Nyrra Hutchinson 3-0-6. Tierah Childs 5-0-12, Salonge Bonner 1-2-4, Michelle St. Martin 1-0-2, Ianna Reid 1-0-2, Narivah Lindsay 1-0-2, Totals 12-2-28. CLASSICAL (6-7): Reilly Fournier 6-5-17, Sequoia Turcotte-Biggs 4-3-13, Mhia Huayta 1-0-2, Leazjiah Trapp 2-1-5, Jazeya Martinez 1-0-2, Kyeera

Hall 5-3-13. Totals 19-12-52. 14 16 13 9 - 52

Of **note:** Turcotte-Biggs had 8assists, 5steals. MERCY 51, SHEEHAN 29

SHEEHAN (9-7): Darla Jagrosse 1-3-5, Madison DiPasquale 2-1-7, Liv Cassesse 4-2-11, Molly Smolenski 2-0-5, Ella Dorsey 0-1-1. Totals 9-7-29. MERCY (11-4): Avery Kohs 1-0-2, Kate Donlan 1-0-3, Sophie Hedge 4-6-16, Ava Giansiracusa 4-5-16, Melina Ford 2-1-5, Winnie Ciccarello 2-0-4, Lily Schoonmaker 1-0-2, Caelyn McMahon-Egan 1-0-2, Mercedes Artaiz 0-1-1. Totals 16-13-51.

8 8 3 10 - 29 16 16 7 12 - 51

HAND 39, HAMDEN 35

Others
RHAM 43, BACON ACADEMY 39

BACON ACADEMY (13-2): Ashley Lizotte 5-0-10, Valerie Luizzi 3-2-8, Marissa Nudd 2-6-10, Cara Shea 5-0-11. Totals 15-8-39. RHAM (14-2): Maddy Evans 1-0-3, Sarah West 3-2-9, Ailish Kleinhen 6-3-20, Lauren Fenton 1-0-2, Kathy Chapman 3-0-6, Grace Whitmore 1-0-3. Totals 15-5-43.

16 8 5 10 - 39 6 10 9 18 - 43 BA

BETHEL 60. ACHIEVEMENT FIRST 12 WINDHAM TECH 49, PARISH HILL 36 EAST CATHOLIC 53, ROCKVILLE 21

BOYS HOCKEY

SCC/SWC CHESHIRE 3, NORTH BRANFORD 1 NB; 1; 0; 0; -; 1 C; 1; 0; 2; -; 3 **Goals: C**-Rocco Ocone-Krause (2), Damon

Zurolo; NB—Mike Matteo. Saves: C—Amaan Chaudhry, 44; NB—Aiden Gist, 33. Rec.: C—4-7-2; NB—5-8. **NORTHEASTERN 1. TRI-TOWN 0**

N; 1; 0; 0; -; 1 TT; 0; 0; 0; -; 0

Goal: N-Lucas Gorcenski. Saves: N-Bauer Cordeiro Larkin, 22; TT—Reave Stafford, 29. Rec.: N—3-9; TT—7-6. Note: Larkin recorded his first career shutout. SIMSBURY 3, XAVIER 2

Westbrook from Page 1

her senior year with four Class

S titles. Sue went on to play for the University of Hartford. She met Steve Sacco, who played at Old Saybrook High with Vin Baker, playing at the local YMCA (where

she still plays). Jami was philosophical after the game. After all, Westbrook (7-8) has five more regular-sea-

son games. "It's just a lot of pressure," Jami said. "I've been working for the 1,000 points from my freshman year until now. This was a big night, there was a big student section, a lot of stomping of feet. The shots just weren't falling, that's just how it goes. You just got to make up for it on other aspects of the court -

rebounding, steals, everything. "The game gives you what the game gives you. You just got to make adjustments."

Jami leads the team in all statistical categories, averaging nine rebounds, four assists and two steals. Wednesday, she had two blocks in the first half.

"Tonight, they had a box and one, triangle and two on her and that's what she sees almost every single night," Westbrook coach Sean Donadio said. "So it's not the easiest thing when you're the center of attention. She's going to get [the 1,000 points], but she would rather have the win, so after halftime to bounce back like that is more important to her."

Westbrook trailed Hale-Ray 11-9 at halftime. In the third quarter, Sadie Susi scored the first eight points in a 14-0 Westbrook run, capped by Sacco's first field goal of the night, a layup off a steal to give Westbrook a 25-13 lead with 4:05 left in the quarter.

Sue was talking about how hard it was to reach the milestone before the game.

"It was in the back of my mind and I remember missing, missing, missing — you just want to get it over with," Sue said. "I always tell her too — we didn't have 3-point shots back then."

Asked about her mom's influ-

ence, Jami laughed. "Oh yeah, Sue McKenna, back in the roaring 80s ..." Jami said to her mother. "Every year, you won a state title, I believe. Basketball runs in the family. My mother here, she's taught me just about everything I know."

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

FLAVOR

LiVING



You don't have to struggle with from-scratch pizza dough when store-bought French bread can step in. RYAN LIEBE/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS

The secret to easy homemade pizza

By Dawn Perry
The New York Times

aking pizza at home sounds fun, but home made pizza dough can be finicky, even if you've had a lot of practice. Still, that doesn't mean delivery is the only way to

satisfy a craving.
Solution: French bread.
Squishy supermarket
French bread is a readymade vehicle for your
favorite pizza toppings.
Sure, you could just buy a
box of Stouffer's, but with a
little planning, homemade
French bread pizza makes
a great meal after a day's

Store-bought French bread can vary pretty widely in size. The measurements offered in these recipes should cover larger 16-ounce loaves, but trust your gut when topping: Smaller loaves may require a thinner layer of sauce or slightly less cheese.

Feel free to mix and match sauces and to play around with different cheese combinations.

Pepperoni lover's French bread pizza

Makes: 4 servings
Total time: 20 minutes, plus
5 minutes' cooling
For the sauce:
1 (14-ounce) can petite diced

tomatoes, drained
1 garlic clove, grated
½ teaspoon kosher salt
(Diamond Crystal)
½ teaspoon dried oregano
1 tablespoon olive oil
A few grinds of black pepper

For the pizza: ½ cup olive oil 2 garlic cloves, grated 1 loaf soft French bread, split lengthwise, insides mostly

4 ounces mozzarella, lowmoisture and part-skim, or fresh (drained and patted dry, if necessary), grated or torn (about 1 cup) 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan, plus more for

dug out



serving 2 ounces sliced pepperoni, quartered (about ½ cup) Red pepper flakes or dried oregano, or both, for serving 1. Make the sauce: Heat the oven to 450 degrees with a rack in the middle position. Combine tomatoes, garlic,

salt, oregano, olive oil and black pepper in a medium bowl and stir to combine. Set aside until ready to use. **2. Prepare the pizza:**

Combine the ¼ cup olive oil and garlic in a small pot over medium heat. Cook, swirling occasionally, until the garlic

starts to sizzle but doesn't brown, about 2 to 4 minutes. Remove from heat. 3. Place the French bread cut-side up on a baking sheet. Brush cut sides with garlic oil. Bake until edges are golden, 5 to 7 minutes. **4. Toss together** the mozzarella, Parmesan and pepperoni in a medium bowl. Divide tomato sauce between the two bread halves all the way to the edges and top with pepperoni and cheese. 5. Return to the oven and hake until melted, about 5 minutes. Increase heat to broil and broil (watch carefully!) until the cheese is bubbly and browned in spots. 1 to 2 minutes more. Let cool 5 minutes before slicing and serving. Serve topped with more Parmesan. red pepper flakes and

Four-cheese French bread pizza

Makes: 4 servings
Total time: 30 minutes, plus
5 minutes' cooling

For the sauce:

1 tablespoon unsalted butter 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour

1 cup whole milk ¼ cup grated Parmesan ¼ cup grated Pecorino Romano

½ teaspoon kosher salt (Diamond Crystal) A few grinds of black pepper

For the pizza:

¼ cup olive oil

2 garlic cloves, grated 1 loaf soft French bread, split lengthwise, insides mostly dug out

4 ounces mozzarella, lowmoisture and part-skim, or fresh (drained and patted dry, if necessary), grated or torn

4 ounces sliced provolone (from the deli), cut into ½-inch pieces (about 1 cup) 2 tablespoons grated Parmesan

Red pepper flakes or dried oregano, or both, for serving 1. Make the sauce: Heat oven to 450 degrees. Melt the butter in a medium pot over medium heat. Once melted, whisk in the flour and cook, stirring constantly, until starting to turn golden, about 1 minute. Whisk in the milk, a few splashes at a time to start, until evenly incorporated. Bring to a full boil, reduce to a simmer and cook, whisking occasionally, until slightly thickened and the mixture coats the back of a spoon, about 5 minutes. (It will continue to thicken as it cools.) Remove from heat, and whisk in Parmesan. pecorino, salt and pepper.

Let cool.

2. Prepare the pizza:
Combine olive oil and garlic in a small pot over medium heat. Cook, swirling occasionally, until the garlic starts to sizzle but doesn't brown, about 2 to 4 minutes. Remove from heat.

3. Place the French bread

cut-side up on a baking sheet. Brush cut sides with garlic oil. Bake until edges are golden, 5 to 7 minutes.

4. Toss together cheeses in a medium bowl. Spread sauce over the two bread halves all the way to the edges and top with cheese.

5. Return to the oven and bake until melted, about 5 minutes. Increase heat to broil. Broil until the cheese is bubbly and browned in

broil. Broil until the cheese is bubbly and browned in spots (watch carefully!), 1 to 2 minutes more. Let cool 5 minutes before slicing and serving. Serve topped with red pepper flakes and oregano, if you like.

Then, top as you like.
Thinly sliced red onion
adds bite, while hot chile or
a pinch of red pepper flakes
cut the richness of the
cheese in almost every case.
Dried oregano and grated

Parmesan lend pizzeria vibes, and fresh basil brightens things up.

The most important step

– and this is crucial – is
letting the pizza cool before
cutting and eating.

There are few things hotter than the marriage of molten sauce and cheese

atop a steaming slice. Searing the roof of your mouth is almost guaranteed if you aren't patient, so wait at least five minutes before digging in.

oregano, if you like.

Whatever direction you choose to go with your French bread pizza, what you'll get is a little bit sophisticated (it's French, after all!), crowd-pleasing meal or snack perfect for game days, Fridays or any day when you might need a reminder that home cooking can be as fun and delicious as it is easy.

A spinach-mushroom quiche bursting with cheesy goodness

By Gretchen McKay Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

My family is not big on eggs, but they do love a nice slice of quiche. Luckily for me, the savory egg custard baked in a pie crust is easy to make (especially if you use a refrigerated crust) and easier still to personalize with favorite meats, vegetables and cheeses — often all at the same time.

Quiche Lorraine, made with a savory mix of crunchy bacon, sauteed onion and Gruyère or Swiss cheese, is probably the most famous of the custard pies, but if you're trying to cut back on meat, it's just as easy to overload the filling with fresh veggies.

This vegetarian quiche combines two easy-to-find winter staples — bagged baby spinach and fresh mushrooms — with shredded Swiss and Parmesan cheeses.

It bakes up light and creamy with a flaky crust. Served with a simple salad, some crusty Italian bread and a light red wine, it makes a terrific winter dinner or elegant brunch dish.

I used Martha Stewart's recipe for pate brisee to make the pastry crust because it's fail-proof (and makes enough for two quiches). But there is no shame in substituting a pre-made refrigerated crust. Anything that gets dinner on the table with the least amount of fuss is good in my book, especially as

we get back to the grind after the long holiday season. Just be sure to pre-bake it for 10 minutes with the bottom covered in parchment and filled with pie weights or dried beans (I use dry kidney beans) so it's crispy instead of soggy.

Turn to Quiche, Page 2



Staying in the know is easy.

Each weekday, you'll get the latest stories curated by our editors on your smart speaker or streaming service.

Available on Amazon Echo, Apple Music, Google Home, Spotify and more.

Start now at PlayOurNews.com

Chicago Tribune

DAILY®NEWS

Hartford Courant

Daily Press

THE MORNING CALL THE BALTIMORE SUN

Orlando Sentinel

Tribune Publishing Company

The Virginian-Pilot

SunSentinel

Farro gratin will counter the winter chill

By Melissa Clark
The New York Times

Quick-cooking farro, with its nutty flavor and plump, chewy texture, is the darling of the grain bowl, the star of countless salads and the foundation of many traditional Italian soups.

It's also pretty wonderful mixed with mushrooms and cheese, and baked into a golden-topped gratin.

Other than homey rice bakes, there aren't a lot of grain gratin recipes, possibly because grains are already filling enough, needing no extra heft from the addition of dairy and eggs.

But in the depths of winter, when rib-sticking dishes are at their most appealing, a farro and mushroom gratin can be exactly right. And this one works on its own, served as a meatless main course (maybe rounded out with a crisp green salad), or as a rich side dish alongside chicken or fish.

The most efficient way to make this recipe is to work through the steps concurrently. While the farro simmers away in one pot, you can brown the mushrooms in a skillet. Just be sure to get them deeply bronzed so they condense and caramelize.

After that, the shallots need only a brief stint in that same skillet — just enough so they're tender and sweet.

I added mascarpone to give this gratin an especially creamy core, but feel free to substitute crème fraîche. The mascarpone is plusher and denser, but the pronounced tanginess of crème fraîche can be a nice contrast to the earthiness of the farro and mushrooms.

One thing to keep in mind is that farro can differ wildly among brands. Most of what you'll find in the U.S. is pearled, or semipearled, meaning that some or all of the bran has been



Earthy grains are baked with caramelized mushrooms and loads of cheese for a satisfying meatless meal. DAVID MALOSH/THE NEW YORK TIMES

removed so it's quicker to cook. But you can also use whole-grain farro. It will take longer to soften (about an hour or so), but it's a lot more nutritious and chewier, too, in a good way. Wheat berries and barley will also make fine substitutes. And if you're looking for something gluten-free, try wild rice or brown rice. Gratins like this one are easy to adapt.

On that note, you can also change up the vegetables. Leftover roasted cauliflower, winter squash or Brussels sprouts will all work nicely, as will garlicky sautéed kale, and they make this warming dinner even easier to prepare — though no less satisfying to eat.

Farro and mushroom gratin

Total time: 45 minutes

Salt and black pepper 1½ cups pearled or semi-pearled farro 6 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more as needed

1 pound mixed mushrooms (such as oyster, maitake, portobello, shiitake or cremini), cut into 1½-inch pieces 6 to 8 fresh thyme sprigs 1 cup thinly sliced shallots, leeks or onion

1 cup mascarpone or crème fraîche 1 cup chopped parsley leaves and tender stems, chives, mint or cilantro 8 ounces shredded Gruyère (1 ½ cups) Lemon wedges, for serving (optional) 1. Heat oven to 425 degrees. Bring a medium pot of well-salted water to a boil over high heat.

2. Add farro to the pot, and cook according to package directions until tender (which should be about 20 to

30 minutes). Drain well in a colander. While still warm (and leaving the farro in the colander, if you like), drizzle the grains with enough olive oil to coat lightly, tossing well to prevent from sticking. Set aside.

3. While farro is cooking, prepare the mushrooms: In a large ovenproof skillet, heat 3 tablespoons of the oil over medium-high until hot but not smoking. Add enough of the mushrooms to cover the skillet in one layer without crowding and half the thyme. Cook, undisturbed, until bottoms of the mushrooms are golden brown, 3 to 5 minutes. Stir and let brown on the other side, 2 to 3 minutes more. Use a slotted spoon to transfer mushrooms and thyme to a plate, and season with salt and pepper. Add another 2 tablespoons oil to the pan and repeat with another layer of mushrooms and thyme, adding them to the plate when done. Repeat with

more mushrooms if necessary. **4. Add** remaining 1 tablespoon oil to skillet and stir in shallots and a large pinch of salt and pepper. Sauté until tender and golden brown, 4 to 6 minutes.

5. Remove skillet from heat and return mushrooms to pan (discarding thyme sprigs). Stir in farro, mascarpone and ¾ cup parsley. Taste and add more salt and pepper, if needed. Spread mixture evenly in the skillet and sprinkle Gruyère on top. Bake until the farro is hot and Gruyère is melted, 10 to 15 minutes. Turn on broiler and broil for 1 to 2 minutes until Gruyère starts to bubble and develops brown spots.

6. Sprinkle with remaining parsley and serve with lemon wedges for squeezing

on top, if you'd like. **Note:** If you're using tangy crème fraîche instead of mascarpone, you may not need the lemon. Taste before squeezing.



This easy-to-make spinach and mushroom quiche is perfect for a light dinner or a fancy brunch. **GRETCHEN MCKAY/PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE**

Quiche

from Page 1

Mushroom and spinach quiche

Makes: 8 servings
For the pie crust:
2 ½ cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon sugar
1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted
butter, chilled and cut into
small pieces
½ to ½ cup ice water
Parchment paper, for lining
pan
Dried beans, rice or pie
weights,
for pan

For the filling:

1 tablespoon oil or butter (I used bacon grease) 1 shallot, thinly sliced 8 ounces thinly sliced fresh mushrooms, any variety Salt and pepper 5 ounces baby spinach 4 eggs, lightly beaten 1 cup half-and-half 1 cup light or heavy cream Sprinkle or two of freshly ground nutmeg 8 ounces shredded or finely chopped Swiss cheese 1/2 cup finely shredded Parmesan cheese

Salt and freshly ground black

1. Prepare pie crust: In the bowl of a food processor, combine flour, salt and sugar. Add butter and process until the mixture resembles coarse meal, 8-10 seconds. 2. With machine running, add ice water in a slow, steady stream through feed tube. Pulse until dough holds together without being wet or sticky; be careful not to process more than 30 seconds. To test, squeeze a small amount together. If it is crumbly, add more ice water, 1 tablespoon at a time. 3. Divide dough into two equal balls. Flatten each ball into a disc and wrap in plastic. Transfer to the refrigerator and chill at least 1 hour. (This recipe makes a

month.)

4. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

5. Roll out dough: Remove

double crust — extra crust

can be stored, frozen, up to 1

5. Roll out dough: Remove the disc from the refrigerator and let it sit for 10-15 minutes so that it becomes easier to roll out. Place disc on a lightly floured, clean, flat surface. Sprinkle some flour on top of the disk. Roll out the dough to a 12-inch circle, to a thickness of about 1/6 of an inch.

6. Line a 9-inch pie plate with

rolled-out pastry. Cover the bottom of the pastry with parchment paper and add enough dried beans, dried rice or pie weights to partly fill the shell. Bake 10 minutes or until slightly browned.

7. Reduce the oven heat to 375 degrees. Remove the beans and parchment paper and set the baked pie crust aside while you make the filling.

8. Heat oil or butter in a large nonstick skillet over medium heat. Add sliced shallot and cook until transparent, 1-2 minutes. Add mushrooms. a pinch or two of salt and a good grind of pepper and cook, stirring occasionally, until browned and tender, about 8 minutes. Add spinach and cook, tossing constantly, until wilted, 1-2 minutes. Remove from heat. 9. Whisk eggs, half-and-half and cream in a medium bowl. Add a pinch of nutmeg, then fold in the mushroom/ spinach mixture, along with cheeses. Spoon into the prepared pie crust. **10. Bake** quiche until set and golden brown, about 30 minutes. Let stand on a wire rack for 10 minutes before slicing. Quiche can be served warm or at room

temperature.

Hartford Courant

Download our app



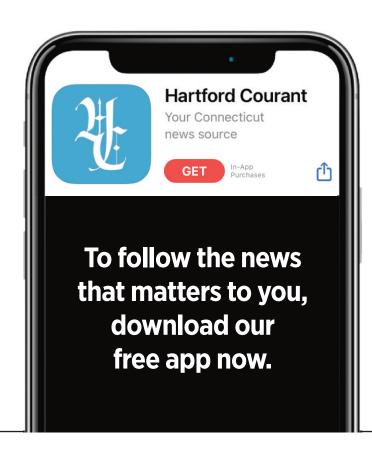
It's easy to access award-winning news on your phone:

- 1. Open the camera on your smartphone
- or tablet (some devices not compatible)
 2. Point your camera at the QR code
- 3. Tap on the banner on your screen
- 4. Download the app

OR QUICKLY SEARCH FOR OUR APP







Orange wines: A genre with a large gray area

Wine not defined by grapes or area, but production

By Eric Asimov The New York Times

To call a category of wine "orange" strikes some people as odd, as no wine is truly a shade of orange.

I think orange wine is a fine term. No white wine is actually white nor red wine red, yet we accept these phrases.

Alternative descriptors have been proposed for orange wines — white wines that are made using red wine techniques. Some would prefer to call them amber wines, while others like skin-contact wines. alluding to the production process rather than the color. Orange seems to have caught on a little better. So here, orange it will be.

But what does it mean to label a wine orange? We have been drinking and thinking about orange wines over the past month. As several readers have pointed out, it's an enormous and puzzling topic to try to cover in three bottles, as is our usual approach.

Greatest strength of orange wines: You have no idea what to expect," wrote one reader, VSB of San Francisco. "Greatest weakness of orange wines: You have no idea what to expect."

'When you buy a Chablis, you have a pretty good idea of what you'll get," VSB continued. "An orange wine? How would you know?"

VSB was alluding to a quality referred to among wine professionals as typicity, taken from the French word typicité, referring to what one may typically expect from a particular wine like a Chablis. People may have different notions of Chablis' typicity, and such arguments occur in wine seemingly every day. But nobody would argue



PEPE SERRA/THE NEW YORK TIMES

that orange wines have

"Orange wines, just like any other 'color' of wines, really can't be categorized or generalized," Jason C. of New York rightly pointed

So why take on such a broad subject?

Our aim is to achieve ease through exploration. The more sorts of wine we drink, the more comfortable we are in settling on our own tastes and prefer-

As a way of introducing the idea of orange wines, I chose three different examples. Unlike the bottles I would ordinarily select, they were not bound by geography or grape. The wines all happened to be Italian, but they came from different regions and were made with different varieties. Rather, the three simply coexist in this broad.

unwieldy category. The three bottles were: Montenidoli Vernaccia di San Gimignano Tradizionale 2019, COS Terre Siciliane Pithos Bianco 2020, and Monastero Suore Cistercensi Lazio Coenobium Ruscum 2019.

What they have in common is a production technique. Each of these white wines, to varying degrees, was made like a red wine. Unlike the typical modern white wine, in which the juice is whisked away from the skins shortly after the grapes are crushed or gently pressed, red wines are permitted to

macerate with the skins, which contain pigment and tannins.

That's how orange wines are made. Juice from the white grapes macerates with the skins as with red wines, absorbing tannins and pigment depending on the length of the maceration. According to the producers' websites, the Montenidoli spent up to a week in contact with the skins, not long at all in the context of orange wines, where some extreme examples spend months mingling with the skins.

The Ruscum stayed on the skins for 15 days and the COS a month. I might have guessed the reverse, as the Ruscum was an amber color and the COS reddish but still somewhat pale. They both had distinct tannic rasps, but it's hard to fully account for the differences. Other elements play a role, like the vessels in which the wines were fermented and aged. The COS was produced in amphorae and the Ruscum in steel and fiberglass vats.

I enjoyed all three of these wines. The Montenidoli, made entirely of vernaccia, was sort of an introductory example. the closest to a conventional white wine, with just a hint of color. But it did have discernible, if gentle, tannins, felt in its fine sandpapery texture. It tasted to me of dried flowers and orange zest.

The COS was made of grecanico, as garganega, the grape of Soave, is known in Sicily. I found it exceedingly fresh and energetic, floral and almost meadowy in its breezy fragrance. Compared with the Montenidoli, it was quite a bit more tannic.

So was the amber Ruscum, which was a blend of four grapes: trebbiano, malvasia, verdicchio and grechetto. It was herbal, spicy and peppery, with flavors of cloves and citrus zest. It seemed less fresh

but equally delicious.

The Ruscum, by the way, is produced at a convent by Cistercian nuns, who in addition to vineyards have orchards and gardens, which they farm organically. They also sell products like jam, beer and chocolates.

I would say the reception for these wines was mixed. Some people, like Peter of Philadelphia, found the Montenidoli and COS not all that different from conventional white wines. Peter also tried an orange wine from Georgia. a Tevza Goruli Mtsvane, which spends five months or so in contact with the skins in qvevri, the traditional Georgian amphoralike vessels that are made of clay and buried in the earth. He found it far more unusual and captivating than the other two.

Frankly, I would love to devote a month to drinking such Georgian wines. Sadly, they would be too difficult to find in many parts of the country. Nonetheless, I would urge anybody who is interested to explore these fascinating wines.

Although Peter found the COS unsurprising, it is often thought to be on the transgressive side. Olga Mosso of Germany recalled visiting a restaurant in Sicily where the owner warned her that the COS was a very different sort of wine that some people found odd. She ordered it all the same, and loved it.

I hope this introduction whets the appetite for further examination. I don't drink orange wines frequently, but I have some that I love and others that did not move me. Yet I often find them compelling, particularly the more emphatic examples.

I know, though, that these wines are not for everyone. That's as it should be. For some it will be one and done. For others, it may be the beginning of a beautiful friendship.



Cooking these potatoes in very salty water seasons them and makes them easy to smash. KENDRA ELIZABETH SMITH/AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

Salt creates a smashing take on roasted potatoes

America's Test Kitchen

In this recipe, salt does double duty: Not only does it give the potatoes their salty taste, but it also gives them their creamy

There's a lot more salt dissolved in the super-salty boiling water than there is in the raw potatoes. So, as the spuds cook, some of that dissolved salt moves from the water into the potatoes, seasoning them

Salt-and-vinegar smashed potatoes

Makes: 4 servings 2 quarts water 11/4 cups salt 2 pounds small red potatoes Vegetable oil spray ¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil 3 tablespoons malt vinegar 1/4 teaspoon pepper

1. Adjust oven rack to the upper-middle position and heat oven to 450 degrees. Set a cooling rack inside one rimmed baking sheet.

2. Add water to a large pot and bring to boil over medium-high heat. Add salt to water and stir with slotted spoon until dissolved. Add potatoes to pot. Cook potatoes until very tender and a paring knife slips in and out easily, 20 to 30 minutes.

3. Use a slotted spoon to transfer potatoes

all the way through. (Thanks, diffusion!) The salt also breaks down pectin in the

potatoes (pectin is like a glue that holds the potatoes' cells together). As the pectin breaks down, the cells inside the potatoes start to separate.

At the same time, lots of tiny starch granules in the potatoes' cells absorb water and swell up (think tiny sponges), giving the potato a creamy, smashable texture.

to the cooling rack set in the baking sheet. Let potatoes sit to dry out for 10 minutes. 4. Meanwhile, spray a second rimmed baking sheet with vegetable oil spray. Use a pastry brush to evenly coat the baking sheet

5. When potatoes are dry, transfer potatoes to the oiled baking sheet. Use a 1-cup dry measuring cup to press down on each potato to flatten until 1/2-inch thick. 6. Use a clean pastry brush to paint

potatoes with half of the vinegar. Sprinkle

with olive oil.

vinegar, Serve.

potatoes with pepper. **7. Roast** until potatoes are well browned and crisp, 30 to 35 minutes. Transfer baking sheet to cooling rack. Use a pastry brush to carefully paint potatoes with the remaining

Notes: Use small red potatoes measuring 1 to 2 inches in diameter. If you prefer to use kosher salt, you will need 1 3/4 cups of Morton kosher salt or 2 ½ cups of Diamond Crystal.



Get more out of your subscription by setting up your digital account

It's easy to start your online access! Visit:

go-activate.com

TRIBUNE



Butcher Shop Fresh Ground Chuck - 5 lb. lots \$3.99/lb Fresh Ground Sirloin - 5 lb. lots \$4.99/lb. D&D Market's **Meatball Mix** (Ground Beef, Veal & Pork) - 5 lb. lots \$4.99/lb. Our Beef Stir Fry \$12.99/lb. Seasoned Beef Tips \$9.99/lb. Choice Skirt Flap Meat \$14.99/lb. **Boneless Pork Pinwheel** \$5.99/lb. Country Style Pork Ribs \$2.99/lb. \$3.99/lb. Boneless Pork Chops Bell & Evans Extra Clean Boneless Chicken Thighs - 5 lb. lots \$4.49/lb. *Taking Big Game & Valentine's Day Orders*

Grocery Rega Imported Strained Tomatoes (24 oz.) \$1.99 Bellino Aborio Rice (2 lb. box) \$3.99 Bellino Minced Garlic (32 oz.) \$3.49 Cento Roman Artichokes (19.6 oz.) \$6.99 Kimbo Espresso (regular or decaf - 8.75 oz.) \$4.99 Produce

\$1.49/lb

\$1.99/lb.

Eggplant Pepper Sale: Green, Red, Orange, Yellow and Cubanel

Jumbo Navel Oranges 99¢ ea. **English Cucumbers** \$1.69 ea. Grape Tomatoes (pints) \$1.69 ea. Prepared Foods

Pasta ala Norma (Pasta w/ Eggplant, Tomato & Ricotta Salata) \$7.99/lb Lemon & Oregano Grilled Pork Chops \$8.99/lb Mike's Dill & Chicken Salad

\$8.99/lb. D&D Market's Store Made Sundried Tomato Pesto (8 oz.) \$6.99 ea. Our Store Made All Purpose Fresh Dough (1 lb.) \$1.99 ea. *Taking Big Game & Valentine's Day Orders*

Deli Boars Head Oven Gold Turkey \$10.99/lb. Boars Head American Cheese \$4.99/lb. \$9.99/lb.

Boars Head Low Salt Ham Boars Head Sharp Piccante Provolone Cheese \$7.99/lb. Boars Head Thick Cut **Natural Bacon** (12 oz.) \$5.99 ea. *Taking Big Game & Valentine's Day Orders*

Sandwich of the Week: Boars Head Low Salt Ham, Cheese, Lettuce & Tomato on a Hard Roll

* Not Responsible for Typographical Errors

Week of February 3 – February 9, 2022 675 Wolcott Hill Rd. • Wethersfield • (860) 785-8998



Treat party guests to tasty spinach, artichoke and red pepper dip served in a bread bowl, KATHLEEN GALLIGAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS PHOTOS

SUPER SNACKS

Score party hosting points with these game day winners

By Susan Selasky Detroit Free Press

uddle up, Super Bowl fans: It's time to firm up your food plan for the biggest snacking event of the year.

If you're hosting a Super Bowl party, think finger foods, sandwiches and dips. Recipes that are easy to prepare are what hosts should aim for. We have five tasty options that are sure to win roars of approval from your crowd.

Keep in mind that these selections don't rank high on the good-for-you scale. They call for cheese and high-fat and salty ingredients like bacon and tortilla chips.

You can sideline some of the calories by using reduced-fat varieties of cream cheese, sour cream and shredded cheese. Going easy on the salt

shaker is also a good idea. Keto diet followers will love our guacamole and bacon chips and mini Mac dippers. Instead of enjoying their guacamole with tortilla chips, they can scoop it up with chips made of crisp bacon.

The mini Mac dippers are inspired by the McDonald's Big Mac, but there's no sesame-seed bun. They're super easy to make, and you can dress them up any way you like.

Brace yourself for the spinach, artichoke and red pepper dip, which is served in a bread bowl. It's as beautiful as it is tasty. You can make the dip portion up to two days in advance and assemble on game day.

Sliders have become as popular at Super Bowl parties as salsa and chips. Make-ahead French dip sliders are easy to put together. You can make several trays in advance and pop them in the oven just before serving.

Bacon ranch jalapeno poppers are mildly spicy once you remove the inner ribs and seeds from the jalapenos. For a bit of a heat kick, leave some of the ribs intact.

Mini Mac dippers

Makes: 16 servings Prep time: 20 minutes Total time: 45 minutes For the burgers:

1½ pounds ground beef chuck 1/4 cup onion, finely diced

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce 4 slices colby jack or favorite cheese

16 pickle slices Gem lettuce

For the dipping sauce:

1/2 cup mayonnaise 4 tablespoons dill pickle relish

1 tablespoon vellow mustard

1 tablespoon low-sugar ketchup, optional 1 teaspoon white wine vinegar

1 teaspoon paprika

1 teaspoon onion powder 1 teaspoon garlic powder

1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Lightly coat a sided baking sheet with nonstick cooking spray or line with foil for less mess. 2. In a large bowl, combine ground beef, onions, salt, pepper and Worcestershire sauce. Mix until thoroughly combined. Roll the beef into about 1 ½ ounce balls, just

slightly larger than a golf ball. Press each one down slightly to make a mini burger patty, pressing in the center slightly to make an indentation. Place on the baking sheet and bake for 15 minutes, flipping each patty over halfway through cooking.

3. Meanwhile, mix together all the dipping sauce ingredients. Taste and adjust seasonings as needed.

4. When the burgers are done, remove from oven and turn off oven; pat away any excess grease. Cut each cheese slice into four squares and place a square on each mini patty. Place back in the cooling oven and let the cheese melt. Remove patties from oven. 5. Place a few squares of lettuce and a pickle slice on top of each and run a skewer

through it. Adapted from www.pinterest.





Bacon ranch jalapeno poppers

Makes: 16-20 servings Prep time: 30 minutes Total time: 1 hour

8-10 medium jalapeno peppers, halved 8 ounces softened cream cheese

3 tablespoons ranch dressing ¼ teaspoon onion powder ¼ teaspoon garlic salt 5 slices bacon cooked and crumbled

11/2 cups shredded colby jack or Mexican blend cheese, divided 2 green onions, thinly sliced ½ cup ranch-flavored tortilla chip crumbs

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line a sided baking sheet with parchment paper. 2. Slice jalapenos in half, leaving the stem intact. Scoop out the ribs and seeds. (If you like a bit more heat, leave some of the

ribs.) Cut a thin, flat slice from the bottom of the peppers so they remain upright while baking. 3. In a medium bowl. beat together the cream cheese, ranch dressing, onion powder and garlic salt until creamy. Add the crumbled bacon, ½ of the shredded cheese and green onions. Mix until combined. 4. Divide the mixture among the halved peppers. (If you have leftover filling, place it in a baking dish and bake along with the peppers.) Sprinkle the top of each pepper with the remaining shredded cheese and crushed tortilla chips. Bake 25-30 minutes until the peppers are tender and tops are golden. Remove from oven and cool slightly before serving. You can serve these with additional ranch dressing, salsa or guacamole. They're tasty hot

Spinach, artichoke and red pepper bread bowl dip

Makes: 12 servings Prep time: 20 minutes Total time: 1 hour

1 large round loaf country bread 4 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature 1/2 cup mayonnaise

½ cup sour cream 2 small jalapenos, 1 seeded and chopped, 1 finely chopped

1 clove garlic, crushed and

peeled 1 box (10 ounces) frozen chopped spinach, thawed, drained and squeezed very dry in a kitchen towel 12 ounce jar of marinated

artichoke quarters, rinsed and drained ¼ cup chopped fresh Italian parslev

½ cup roasted red peppers, drained and finely chopped 11/2 cups shredded pepper jack or Monterey Jack cheese or mix of both Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper Olive oil, for brushing

Baguette slices, crackers and vegetables such as carrots

and celery, for serving 1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Cut a thin slice from the top of the bread to expose the inside. Cut out the center of the bread to make a bread shell about 1-inch thick.

2. Cut the bread top and center into cubes and set

3. Combine the cream cheese, mayonnaise, sour cream, chopped jalapeno and garlic in a food processor and process until smooth. Add the spinach and

artichokes and pulse until chunky. Add the parsley, all but 1 tablespoon of the red peppers, 1 1/4 cups cheese, ½ teaspoon salt and some pepper and pulse just until combined.

4. Spoon mixture into bread bowl and top with remaining 1/4 cup cheese, reserved red peppers and finely chopped jalapeno. Place the bread on a baking sheet. Brush the bread all over with olive oil and bake until hot and bubbly, 25 to 30 minutes. **5. Serve** with the bread cubes, crackers or vegetables.

Adapted from www.foodnetwork.com

Guacamole with bacon chips

Makes: 6 servings Prep time: 30 minutes Total time: 30 minutes For the bacon:

For the guacamole:

12 ounces center cut bacon Coarsely ground black pepper to taste

4 ripe avocados, washed, halved, pitted 1/2 cup chopped tomato 1/3 cup chopped onion 1 small jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely diced ⅓ cup chopped fresh cilantro Juice of half a lime

Salt to taste 1. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. Line a sided baking sheet with parchment paper or foil. Cut each strip of bacon into thirds. Place on the baking sheet and, if desired, sprinkle with black pepper. Bake about 20 minutes or until the bacon is barely crisp. You want it to be somewhat pliable and not break into pieces in the dip. Remove from the oven and transfer to serving plate. 2. Meanwhile, make the guacamole. Scoop out the

avocado flesh into a bowl. Mash the flesh, leaving it somewhat chunky. Stir in the tomato, onion, jalapeno, cilantro and lime juice. Sprinkle in some salt and stir. Taste and add more salt or lime juice to taste.

3. Serve guacamole with bacon chips.

- Adapted from Kroger

French dip sliders

Makes: 15 servings

Prep time: 25 minutes Total time: 45 minutes 5 tablespoons unsalted butter, divided 1 large onion, thinly sliced (about 2 ½ cups) 2 sprigs plus 1/4 teaspoon fresh thyme Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste 15 slider buns, halved 1 pound thinly sliced deli roast beef 15 slices provolone cheese

¼ teaspoons garlic powder

1 tablespoon minced garlic

parsley

1/4 cup chopped fresh flat leaf

11/2 cups low-sodium beef broth 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce 1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

2. In a large skillet over mediumhigh heat, melt 2 tablespoons of the butter. Add onion and thyme sprigs, and season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, until caramelized, about 15

minutes. Discard thyme. 3. Place bottom halves of slider buns in a large baking dish or sided baking sheet. Top each one with 1 folded slice of roast beef. Add the cheese slices to cover the beef. Sprinkle with the caramelized onions. Top with the bun tops. 4. In a small sauce pan, melt 2

tablespoons butter and brush on

parsley. Bake until the cheese is melted and sliders are heated through, about 15 minutes. 5. Meanwhile, make the jus. In the skillet used for cooking the onions, add the remaining 1 tablespoon butter and melt over medium heat. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute. Do not allow garlic to brown. Stir in the beef broth, Worcestershire sauce and remaining ¼ teaspoon thyme; season with salt and pepper. Simmer until slightly reduced, about 10 minutes. Serve sliders with jus for dipping. — Adapted from www.pinterest.com

top of buns. Sprinkle them with

garlic powder, coarse salt and

